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THE gateway

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GTWY.CA

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A SYRIAN REFUGEE'S JOURNEY TO CANADA

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Meeting UAlberta

Rory O'Donovan

ARTS I



Gateway: Seeing how it's awards season, how do you feel about awards shows?

O'Donovan: I don't really like follow it that much, but like I see it all on social media I guess.

Gateway: Have you seen any of the nominated films this year?

O'Donovan: Yeah, I saw The Revenant the other night, saw Star Wars, I don't really know what else is nominated though.

Gateway: Do you think Leo deserves the Oscar this year?

O'Donovan: I dunno, I think he deserved it last year more than this year. He just crawled around and didn't say much.

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SECTION	MEETING TIMES	ROOM 3-04 SUB
NEWS	Mondays at 3 p.m.	
SPORTS	Wednesdays at 3 p.m.	
OPINION	Wednesdays at 2 p.m.	
ARTS & CULTURE	Wednesdays at 4 p.m.	
PHOTOGRAPHY	Mondays at 2 p.m.	
MULTIMEDIA	Mondays at 4 p.m.	
COMICS & ILLUSTRATIONS	Fridays at 2 p.m.	





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Peace at Last

A Syrian refugee's journey to Canada



SAFELY STUDYING SCIENCES Once a medical student of Damascus University, Naseem Alrayes has transferred into the U of A's Department of Biological Sciences.

CHRISTINA VARVIS

Jamie Sarkonak
STAFF REPORTER • @SWAGONAK

Naseem Alrayes had always wanted to be a doctor, just like his parents. And at age 23, he was nearly one semester away from reaching his dream. But living in the heart of the failed state of Syria made graduation impossible.

In the past four years, Naseem had been studying in Syria's capital, Damascus. Compared to Homs, Naseem's home city — and Syria's "revolutionary capital," Damascus was safe.

"Kind of safe," Naseem says. "I (didn't) know what (was) closer: death, or finishing my degree."

At Damascus University, Naseem watched the gradual escalation of revolutionary violence. There was a day when Naseem came home to find his house without windows or doors, with broken furniture strewn about — the result of a detonated car bomb next to his house. Events like these caused Naseem's parents, living in Jubail, Saudi Arabia, to live in constant fear for their son.

"Believe us that these years were the hardest period in all our life," Naseem's father, Dr. Emad Alrayes says in an email interview with *The Gateway*. "We were melted with TV news and we were dying with every event happening."

The family didn't originally plan to spit up. The Alrayeses had been living in the city of Homs for about 20 years — that's where Naseem began his education at the University of Homs. But the humanitarian crisis and Syrian Civil War started, and the Alrayes' family, residing in a Christian neighbourhood, was one of the first to experience the consequences. The once-peaceful neighbourhood where they raised their children became occupied by gunmen. Fleeing became absolutely critical.

"We will never forget that black horrible day when we left our home under shooting, explosion, barefoot, leaving all our property back," Dr. Emad Alrayes says.

Syria wasn't supposed to be that way. The country had a warm, peaceful culture — visiting foreigners would even feel a "magic magnetic power" that would make them want to

stay, says Dr. Emad Alrayes. Naseem's Ukrainian-born mother, Dr. Irena Alrayes, was one of these people.

Naseem stayed in Damascus, and his parents and sisters moved to Saudi Arabia, where Dr. Emad Alrayes found work in a hospital. The beginning of Naseem's stay in Damascus was fine — the violence was a more than a 100 kilometres away in Homs. But in a couple years, the situation became critical: mortar rockets fell over residential areas, car bombs detonated next to commuters and snipers targeted children. Some of these people were Naseem's friends and neighbours.

"You kind of get used to the idea of death. Of, just it's fine walking around smelling death everywhere. Smelling the smell of danger, smelling that you could be dead at any moment at any place. There is totally no safe place in the end."

His parents grew more and more worried, but Naseem was optimistic that the situation might improve.

The opposite happened.

In Naseem's final days on campus, a missile decimated a neighbouring building — the first event he took as an indication that he must leave. He moved into residence at Damascus University, but because of the crisis, the institution was attacked at least a few times per year, Naseem recalls.

"Missiles come directly into faculties, and students are technically dead," he says. "So (the impact) huge."

At the beginning of the crisis, that would have been something that you would question ("What the hell is happening? How can we be living in this?" Naseem would ask.) But the devastation was just something you just had to live with.

"You kind of get used to the idea of death. Of, just it's fine walking around smelling death everywhere," Naseem says numbly. "Smelling the smell of danger, smelling that you could be dead at any moment, in any place. There is

totally no safe place in the end."

Naseem's parents tried to convince him to come to Saudi Arabia, at least temporarily, but there he would have been unable to study. The decision to stay in Syria was even more difficult when Naseem's mother was diagnosed with an advanced level of breast cancer. But Naseem was determined to become a doctor; prioritizing education meant staying in Damascus. Education in Syria was free and it would have been expensive to study abroad, and very difficult to successfully apply for a visa. For Syrians, visas are difficult to find, Dr. Alrayes says.

For the Alrayes family, education is crucial in expanding the mind. And although Naseem was studying in Syria, his two younger sisters needed a safe place to study as well. The family started to search Canada for schools.

"Education is the real wealth that we can provide our children instead of any other wealth, which could be lost," Dr. Emad Alrayes says. "The education stays forever."

While he had been studying by himself in Damascus, Dr. Irena Alrayes, and sister, Anna, successfully applied for visitor visas to come to Canada. Though it meant having to postpone her chemotherapy, Naseem's mother arrived in August to find a place for her daughter to finish high school — and a way out for her son.

"And she did," Naseem says with a smile.

Anna, in Grade 12, enrolled in Columbia International College of Hamilton, Ontario. But the search wasn't complete — Naseem's mother was often recommended to the U of A. Then she heard of the U of A's President's Award for Refugees and Displaced persons, which had been announced in the Fall. The award would cover the tuition and living costs of up to 10 students who

had been forced to leave home.

Naseem applied and won.

The news was received at the same time Naseem's mother was about to begin her first round of chemotherapy. Her anxiety was replaced with joy and relief.

"She forgot about herself — her heart was flying high," Dr. Alrayes says. "She came up again and started to believe that miracles still exist!"

Two days before Naseem left for Canada, a bus exploded right in front of his residence at the university. He knew it was time to go.

This week, Naseem Alrayes is a U of A Biological Sciences student who has transferred 51 credits into his program. Technically, he's in second-year. But going to class is no longer a risk. His parents are no longer overwhelmed with fear for their son every time they check the news.

Whether or not they're safe, well, that depends on how you define safe, Naseem says. Being a Christian in Saudi Arabia can be dangerous. And Dr. Irena Alrayes is still fighting breast cancer.

But Dr. Irena Alrayes has completed three of eight rounds of chemotherapy. And Naseem, though he misses Homs, says he's ready to call the U of A his second home. His first impression of campus? He exhales the word with relief: "Amazing."

"Everything is included. Anything you want, you can find it. And you can get any support you need at any time, in any point, so it's just great,"

And it won't be too long until Naseem can be with at least some of his family. His sister Anna has received early acceptance into the Faculty of Science's Pharmacology program. He's proud of his sister, and grateful that they'll be able to study together.

"The whole university understands that me and my sister should be together in the same university," he says.

Naseem no longer has to worry about what disastrous event might happen while at the university, so he has started to plan his future and pursue success in genetics or pathology.

"I am sure that he will get success, because I believe that the genius is generated from the womb of sorrows," Dr. Emad Alrayes says.

Grocery stores inadequate for students in Jasper Ave. area

Mitch Sorensen
STAFF REPORTER • @SONOFAMITCHH

Justis Allard will tell you he's luckier than most when it comes to the weekly grocery store trip.

The fifth-year Faculty of ALES student's apartment is positioned in between the downtown Save-On-Foods and Safeway locations, so he can walk to either within 20 minutes.

"If you live anywhere else (in downtown), it's not walkable," Allard said.

New research from the University of Alberta would agree with Allard, as Craig Patterson, head of Applied Research at the U of A School of Retailing, and his team have authored a examining grocery availability in the downtown cores of major Canadian cities.

"Edmonton isn't up to the same level in terms of grocery store coverage in the core as places like Toronto and Vancouver," Patterson said. "I've noticed a number of gaps in geography."

Those gaps are the central to the study, as Patterson said that ideally everyone living in a downtown area should have a grocery store within 500 metres of their doorstep. Though cities like Vancouver often exceed that requirement, Edmonton's downtown only has a handful of stores, leaving large tracts of real estate without easy access to a grocery store.

Bounded by 124 Street, 107 Avenue, River Valley Road and 97 Street, the downtown area in question has an estimated population of 41,000 people, yet is only served by three grocery stores. In addition to the Safeway and the Save-On, there is a Lucky 97 Supermarket

on the northern edge of the area in Chinatown.

The 2014 closure of the Sobeys location on 104th Street is a concern for nearby residents, and Patterson said he chose not to live in that area because of the lack of a grocery store.

Patterson also pointed to Planet Organic at 123rd Street and Jasper Avenue, as well as the introduction of perishables to the Shoppers Drug Mart on Jasper Avenue as two other locations that would meet grocery needs. Even with these additions to grocery shopping in the

area, Patterson said that price of goods could be a concern.

"Not everything (at Planet Organic) is that expensive," Patterson said. "But I was in there at Christmas and saw a \$130 turkey. So that was a bit of sticker shock for me."

Allard agreed, saying that the Real Canadian Superstore just north of downtown is significantly cheaper than the Safeway he usually shops at.

"(Safeway) is expensive," Allard said, "it's not the bulk place, you pay about twice as much as you would at No Frills or Superstore."

Easy access to affordable groceries was "paramount" as a student for Allard, and Patterson also pointed to the income and mobility diversities of the area as even more reason for increased coverage.

"There are people living (downtown) because they can't afford to drive cars," Patterson said. "They might be seniors or disabled, and it's important for them to get their basics, to eat and be healthy."

Though the new development throughout the downtown core comes with zoning for new grocery stores in Ice District, the Brewery

District, the Quarters development, and Rosedale, many of those stores are years away from completion. In terms of putting additional stores in existing downtown locations, Patterson said the cost of doing business could be a turn-off for retailers.

Operating on a slim profit margin, Patterson said downtown grocery stores often have difficulties with shipping and merchandising their goods. This, along with statistically higher shrinkage rates in the downtown core, and many stores may look past these locations.

One area which could be improved, according to Patterson, is city-mandated parking requirements in the areas around Jasper Avenue.

"Oliver is a challenging area, because if you want to put in retail, there is a parking requirement that is arguably way too high," Patterson said. "If the city can't do that, I don't think Oliver is going to see another grocery store at all."

For Patterson, continued development and beautification of the downtown core would go a long way in improving the area. Citing Chicago as a good example, using benches and way-finding signs to improve the pedestrian experience would be a positive change in Edmonton.

Despite this optimism, Patterson said it would take a concerted effort from planners and developers to improve the city's core.

"To have a healthy city, you need a healthy downtown, and Edmonton's is not that at the moment," Patterson said. "It needs a lot of work, and, for the city's sake, I hope it goes in that direction."



PRODUCE PREDICAMENT Research suggests that grocery stores in the downtown area are seriously lacking.

CHRISTINA VARVIS

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Should Native Studies courses be mandatory?

The case for making Faculty of Native Studies courses a mandated portion of UAlberta's undergraduate curriculum

Kate McInnes

NEWS STAFF • @KATEMCGUINEAIPG

Mandatory native studies courses are the way of the future for some Canadian universities, but those involved in their development say they have to be more meaningful than mere dissemination of information.

In November 2015, Lakehead University and the University of Winnipeg both passed regulations which made three-credit native studies course a mandatory requirement for an undergraduate degree. According to Maclean's, the initiatives, which are set to launch in September 2016, aim to "combat racism and foster reconciliation in cities where indigenous residents continue to face ... titanic barriers."

But Dwayne Donald, an associate professor in the Faculty of Education whose research focuses on the problems presented to educators when they are confronted with "curriculum initiatives that require ... engagement with Aboriginal concerns," was hesitant to endorse similar initiatives at the U of A, at least for the time being.

"My concern with mandatory courses is it would be an impoverished and diminished version ... of indigenous knowledge (that would) make it more palatable for the institution," he said.

"If the initiative, as it's been promoted, is mostly about information, that would be a mistake. What I'm committed to is not just talking about indigenous people, but teaching from those insights and world-views."

Columnists from Maclean's and The Globe and Mail have speculated that the call for mandatory indigenous courses in post-secondary institutions originated from a growing public awareness of Aboriginal issues, especially following the recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the launch of a federal inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal



COMPULSORY CREDITS Could native studies courses at the U of A become mandatory?

CHRISTINA VARVIS

women.

From Donald's perspective, a university-wide native studies requirement constructed solely on the desire to "do something indigenous" would mean missing an opportunity to "learn from each other and do better."

"It's something a lot of people are passionate about, but we need to slow down a little bit and think about what this would mean," he said.

"When somebody says, 'native studies courses for everybody!' ... I'm just not sure whether this place is prepared to do that in the way I think it needs to be done."

Donald, who is a descendant of the Papaschase Cree, was part of a team

that created the Faculty of Education's first required course focused on indigenous themes: Aboriginal Education and Contexts for Professional and Personal Engagements (EDU 211). For him, the course has not only challenged students to address "very personal, very subjective identity issues," but it has generated "a pretty significant culture change" within the faculty.

"The first year we taught it, there was a lot of resistance ... and now the conversations are qualitatively different," he said. "It isn't so much that people have surrendered, but ... there's less of a vulnerability."

EDU 211 has been a mandatory component of a Bachelor of Education for the last three years, but the

course still faces considerable opposition. A first-year education student who wished to remain anonymous said that, while he thought creating a class centered on the problems posed to "any and all groups (that) may be poverty-stricken" would be a "good idea," he considered EDU 211, which he took last semester, to be "biased" and "revisionist."

"There was no room for critical thought or multiple perspectives," he said. "Anything that didn't completely vilify the past (or) current government was never mentioned."

"A university class that only deals with a single perspective and doesn't allow for critical thought ... is useless in my opinion."

Mark Oldershaw, a native studies

student who is of Metis and Cree descent, said he found the opposition of some non-indigenous students to mandatory native studies classes "frightening."

"The critical thought (in native studies) is the recognition that you go to an institution that is based on a colonial structure," Oldershaw said. "This self-realization is a step towards (Indigenous) reconciliation and decolonization."

"I remember in my junior high classes, teachers used to skip over the Indigenous component in the curriculum and say, 'I don't really know this, I'll just skip to something else.' That really says something (about) the education system. There are flaws that need to be fixed."

Midlife crisis a myth, says U of A researchers

Mitch Sorensen

STAFF REPORTER • @SONOFAMITCHE

It's a familiar scene; people turn 50-years-old, and suddenly there's a sports car in the driveway, amongst other splurges. Though many might attribute this sudden change in behavior as "the midlife crisis," several University of Alberta researchers disagree.

A team of researchers from several universities headed by Department of Psychology professor Nancy Galambos authored a study on the change in net happiness from late adolescence to early adulthood. Concluding that happiness actually increases consistently across this period, Galambos and her team posit that the midlife crisis is a concept which needs debunking.

Shichen Fang, a graduate student in the Department of Psychology, said that the normalization of the midlife crises could have significant consequences on mental health.

"People that have a really good reason for being depressed could think it was something that was supposed to happen, and fail to seek proper treatment," Fang said. "The assumption that there is a midlife crisis, everyone will have one, and you should buy a Porsche, should really be reconsidered."

The data pool used to come to this conclusion was also unique. Harvey Krahn, a now-retired professor in the psychology department, conducted a massive longitudinal study of Edmontonians for 25 years.

"The message would be, at least to 20 and 30 year olds, that life gets better."

NANCY GALAMBOS
PROFESSOR AND RESEARCHER, DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

Starting with a cohort of high school seniors from across the city in 1985, the study followed these subjects for a quarter of a decade. Ending in 2010, the study had tracked the 18-year-old students until they were 43 years of age. Also included was a 14-year study of members of the U of A graduating class of '85.

Though the subjects were surveyed on a variety of topics, one repeated question asked how happy the participants were with their lives. That, Fang said, was the anchor question of the article.

Though this data collection has led to a multitude of studies, it was initially framed as a study of unemployment. Since the study was conducted on a group who experienced

one recession when they came of age and another in the mid-2000s, Galambos said that there has been interest from the government in results obtained from the data.

Aside from government interest, Galambos said the availability of locally-gathered data like these had significant positive impact on the university.

"Having a data set like this is not common," Galambos said. "And giving students and other colleagues the opportunity to work with this, in many ways, ideal data is great for education."

Though Galambos and Fang said such a data set means they can keep dreaming up studies almost indefinitely, Fang is in the process of publishing a follow-up study which stems from the results of this article.

"We did a study on the relationship between happiness and civic engagement," Fang said. "The question is whether being happy makes you participate in more civic activity, or if participating makes you happier."

As to what students should take away from her findings, Galambos had a simple memo.

"The message would be, at least to 20- and 30-year-olds, that life gets better."



PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS Researchers say happiness increases as we age.

SAHAR SAADAT

Conflict zones and crocodiles: U of A contributes to Tunisian paleo discovery

Jamie Sarkonak

STAFF REPORTER • @SWAGONAK

Surrounded by an escort of armed guards, a paleontology team retrieved the largest marine crocodilian ever to exist from the deserts of Tunisia. Well, just the skull.

University of Alberta PhD student Tetsuto Miyashita was one of seven authors in the Cretaceous Research paper describing *Machimosaurus rex* as a new species. The animal had a five-foot skull, contributing to its total body length of 35 feet — about the size of a school bus.

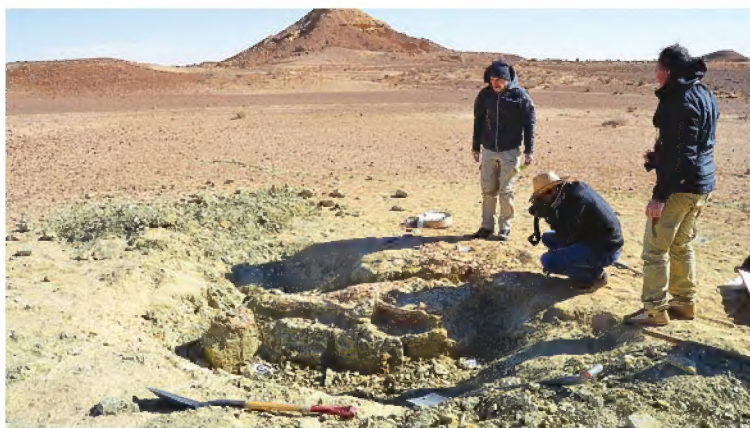
Miyashita joined the project in 2014, when his colleague Federico Fanti of the University of Bologna in Italy first unearthed the crocodilian's skull. The field team of Tunisian and Italian paleontologists didn't have enough time to excavate the rest of the animal, so the body had to be left behind, Miyashita said.

"It's a headless crocodile, still in the ground," he said.

The skull of the animal can still give 75 per cent of the information about an animal, since the head is the sensory centre of the body. Despite being unable to research the body of *M. rex* in detail, Miyashita and Fanti were able to understand the animal.

M. rex's wide, flat teeth likely functioned to crush sea turtles and heavily-armoured fish. The marine crocodile likely wasn't a dangerous predator for the long-necked dinosaurs that lived on land in the area. If *M. rex* ever came on land, it spent very little time there.

Tunisia has been in a state of unrest since the Arab Spring of 2012.



COLOSSAL CROCODILE Researchers excavate crocodile remains from a dig site.

SUPPLIED

The region where the body of the *M. rex* specimen remains, called Tataouine, is currently a militarized zone which Global Affairs Canada advises against all travel. This area is more likely to experience conflict because it's narrow and flanked by both Algeria and Libya. Border guards from their respective countries are capable of shooting targets in Tunisia, including scientists.

"This is a rare instance where scientists can get caught in the interplay of politics," Miyashita said. "Scientists get to think about politics a lot, but we don't really get to interact with that aspect of society."

The appeal of searching for fossils in Tataouine comes from the fact that so few people have searched there, Miyashita said. The age of the rock is also older than in most areas — animals preserved there are dated back 130 million years ago, which is rare to find worldwide. Fossils found in Dinosaur Provincial Park are much younger, at around 75 million years ago. The Italian team had to search Tataouine's expansive

desert for six years before they came across the full skeleton of *M. rex*.

Since 2015, there have been ongoing plans for the team to return to Tunisia and retrieve the body of *M. rex*. Attacks in public areas of Tunisia have postponed Fanti from returning, as safety is the ultimate priority of the team. When they finally return, they'll know where to go, Fanti said in an email.

"We know where to dig and we have high expectations," he said.

Besides contributing to science, the team is trying its best to be a good ambassador despite the political situation. The team has an ongoing collaboration with the Office National des Mines in Tunis. And the *M. rex* skull is remaining in Tunisia — which is where it belongs, Miyashita said.

"We are there for the pursuit of knowledge. And we are not to exploit what they have. I really want the people in Tunisia to realize what treasure they have in their backyard," Miyashita said. "I think that would inspire some of the people."

news briefs

COMPILED BY Jamie Sarkonak

U of A President, VP (Academic) host forum for developing Institutional Strategic Plan

University of Alberta President Turpin held the Engaging the Whole People Forum on Tuesday, Jan. 19 to continue the campus discussion on what the next Institutional Strategic Plan (ISP) should encompass.

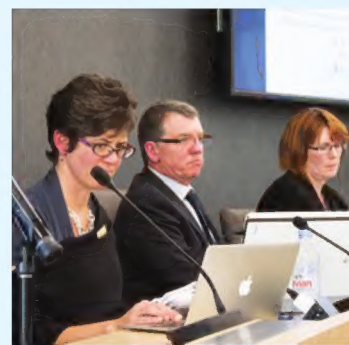
The discussion paper briefed readers on issues facing the university in the future, such as projected changes in student and faculty demographics, as well as the university's comparatively high rates of publications, citations and funding per student.

Turpin presented the primary concerns that have come up in discussion with the ISP Advisory Committee meetings, in-person consultations, town halls, roundtable discussions and online responses since he started dialogue with the public in Fall 2015.

Discussion throughout the process has primarily focused on:

- Defining excellence in teaching and learning.
- Addressing the issue of faculty renewal, building on sustainability and community engagement initiatives.
- Enriching campus culture, and addressing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations.
- Responding to the interest in experiential teaching and learning.

Several members of university staff in attendance brought up the following themes:



CHRISTINA VARVIS

- Recruiting and supporting international students, especially regarding increasing awareness to accessibility services.
- Addressing international research, and defining criteria for achieving global excellence.
- Supporting students in a broadening learning environment, like in Community Service Learning, volunteering and abroad programs.
- Improving student awareness of ways they can broaden their learning environment.
- Engaging alumni and capitalizing on them as a resource for student learning.

Throughout the forum, Turpin stressed the necessity to reframe the U of A story and articulate it in a way that will show the public, the province, and the federal government why the U of A is important and what it can offer to its community.

"How do we ensure that we more effectively get our message out, so that we're not back on our heels, fighting a defensive action in a bad economy, but really making the case for investment in a truly outstanding institution?" Turpin said.

YOUR OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER



AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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Contact Cam Lewis (eic@gateway.ualberta.ca) for information

APPLICATIONS DUE Tuesday, Jan. 26 @ 5:00 p.m.

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psychology
professor
Clayton Dickson

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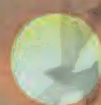
Δ Monday, January 25



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Δ Saturday, January 30



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Monday, January 25

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Building a Vision and a Team



Tuesday, January 26

Marina Nemat

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Wednesday, January 27

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Opinion meetings every Wednesday at 2pm in SUB 3-04

EDITORIAL COMMENT

It's time to automate taxes and other government services

IT'S NOW 2016 AND WE'RE DEFINITELY LIVING IN THE FUTURE. I CAN use my cell phone to hail an Uber to drive me to the restaurant I Yelped, and Instagram the food to show my friends how it was before I even leave. Then I can go home and stream movies over the internet via Netflix until I fall asleep. In the morning, my phone wakes me up when my sleep cycle is at its best point and let's me know what's in my schedule for the day. But for whatever annoying reason, we still have to file our own taxes.

It's unfortunate because humans are prone to making mistakes. We're lucky to have software to help us out, but it's still possible. I made an error on mine last year. I got married in 2014, and when doing my 2014 taxes in 2015, I mistakenly filled out that I wasn't married. I misread the prompt that came up on Simpletax. My wife filled her's out correctly, so the Canadian Revenue Agency knew something was up and sent a letter. I quickly amended the mistake and thought that was that.

Then I got a bill for over \$650 in the mail. It turns out, getting married means you have to pay back years of GST credits. That \$650 was close to three years of them. As a student that didn't live at home anymore, getting a bill for that amount wasn't a drop in the bucket; it's more than I pay for my share of the rent.

But I'm not even that mad that I had to pay back the credits. What I am annoyed about is that the Canadian Revenue Agency didn't know I was married. Why is it up to us to put information into our tax returns that the government already knows? I had to buy a marriage license, get a commissioner, and have them register the marriage with the government.

I guess communication gets interrupted along the way due to different government agencies, especially since marriage is handled provincially and taxes federally. So why not let computers handle it? It's the same argument I have for automating all things that can be automated: humans are prone to making mistakes that machines won't. Why not have a central database that our civic, provincial and federal governments can draw from to find out relevant information about us?

Of course, this can get really dystopian really fast. Most of us are, reasonably, scared by the idea of the government building up vast stores of information on what we do, what we look at online, and where we go. We're only fine with private companies like Google and Facebook doing that, right? So I would propose that the database be open-sourced. Not the data itself, but the schema, the programs that access it, and all those technical things I won't get into. Then we can continue pretending that the government doesn't spy on us because that's CSEC's job, not this database's.

Making the database open source wouldn't just help in keeping government accountable, it would allow our country's citizens to go in and fix bugs themselves. Giving university computing science students a project to fix a bug on Canada's Citizenbase GitHub repo would be much more rewarding than getting them to make yet another app that they'll never look at again.

Each agency should only have access to view information that's relevant to it, and those that access it would need some sort of security clearance. Now the Canadian Revenue Agency wouldn't need to see if I filled out the box saying that, yes, I am married. It could just ask the database and know instantly. And it wouldn't just help with marriage; it would be easier for people to change all sorts of information, such as names, addresses, genders, and dependants. It could store prescription and health information, work benefits status, and more.

Going back to taxes, businesses should be able to automatically let the government know how much they're paying employees, and banks should automatically notify them of changes to RRSPs and TFSAs. This would make filing taxes unnecessary for the majority of Canadians. Those that do need to report other income or information would still have to in April, but the whole process would be simpler.

The New York Times recently published an article proclaiming Canada hip. It was in the style section, and featured people like The Weeknd, Drake and Ryan Gosling. Let's make them write another article like it, but in the tech section. Canada can show leadership in technology, while also making lives easier for its citizens, and making government more efficient and accountable. We just need to do it right, or else the government will face potentially valid accusations of Orwellianism.

Kevin Schenk
ONLINE EDITOR



POSTMEDIA fired and laid off many Edmonton Journal and Edmonton Sun employees. The newsrooms will be merged. OK. ADAIRE BEATTY & JOSH GRESCHNER

letters to the editor

FROM THE WEB

It is what it is what it is
(Re: Being transgender isn't a disorder, school board trustee should resign, by Shaylee Foord, Sept. 22 2015)

Reality is what it is. Far from making any of us a "prisoner", it affords us the very essential paradigm of concrete, foundational fact through logical observation. Anything else is purely fantasy, which, as I stated, in turn, must embrace chaos. Chaos as opposed to reality is, like it or not, never a good thing.

celtblood
VIA WEB

No

Your reply shows that you have no idea of what it means to be Transgender. Picture yourself getting up in the morning knowing you have a female body but your Brain is really a male brain. You do not want to dress the way you are, do all female things etc. That is basically a fact as our brains are Female as now scientifically found to be more female than male for us MtF Trans.

ChloeAlexa Landry
VIA WEB

Minions deserve accuracy
(Re: Flop culture: Minions, by Raylene Lung, Jan 13)

Sigh. The Minions are not from

Dreamworks. Nor are they from Disney (I should know, I used to answer this question upwards of 25 times a day). The Despicable Me/Minions franchise is produced by Illumination Entertainment in partnership with Universal Studios. Come on, Gateway. Get your facts straight.

Studio Stickler
VIA WEB

they look like little yellow buttplugs.

TPot
VIA WEB

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Seeing sexism where it isn't

How nice it is to revel in the consistency of bandwagon causes! I refer, of course, to the photography in The Gateway issue of Jan. 25, depicting the engineering queens -- 1973 as sides of beef in a meat market. The photograph is attributed to none other than The Gateway's chief executive, Mrs. Terry Jackson.

Every year when Engineering Week comes about, someone blindly lifts up the torch and screams 'sexism!' The engineers are representing women as meat; to be inspected, prodded and set on display, with the choicest piece being the winner!

I wonder, where has that virtue of unbiased, researched journalism gone to? It would appear that it somehow by-passed The Gateway. Perhaps a reiteration of facts might help to give a better perspective view.

The queen is elected on the basis

of 100 points. Ten possible points are assigned to an evaluation based on conversations and presentations of the princesses with judges. Fifty points are assigned to individual club efforts, which is evaluated in the following manner:

Activity:	Points:
Skits	40
Campus Day	40
Toboggan Race	40
Boat Race	40
Keg Race	40
Ice Statues	40
Club Organizations	60
Club Campaign	80
Total:	380 points

Finally, a vote by engineering students comprises forty possible points, with each student having three graded votes.

The girls and people (Yes, people!) who were responsible for Engineering Week gave freely of their precious time, effort and intelligence to help relieve the tenseness, anxiety, and pressure demanded in the Engineering faculty. This week of activity can do nothing but aid the students in developing an Esprit-de-Corps, and maintaining a hold on the realities of life.

With the above in mind, I find it very hard to believe that the individual girls are only being judged on their sex-appeal by sex-crazed engineers.

I find it truly insulting that you, Mrs. Jackson, could so crassly insult all the people behind engineering week.

Bohdan Barabash
FEB. 1, 1973

Letters to the editor should be sent to opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca.



MARIE ESPENIDO

Rate My Prof's "revenge ratings" offer no constructive criticism



Brenna Schuldhaus
OPINION WRITER

Just as 'newsfeeds' are often anything but reliable or factual, comment sections on familiar websites such as Rate My Professors (RMP) can be anything but truthful, objective, or fair. Posts on sites such as these are occasionally used to vent unedited personal frustrations, and unabashedly rip a professor's teaching style and personality to shreds out of resentment.

Newly coined as 'revenge rating' on RMP, these posts are defined as "Getting even with a professor by writing a negative review ...". This definition precludes an article on the site suggesting how to compose a decent, objective post – I'm impressed that this article exists at all. While amounting to little more than superfluous pop-culture references decorating a skeleton of generic advice, its presence addresses the fact that these 'revenge ratings' are pervasive.

Along with online note databases and their potential looming legal implications, 'revenge ratings' can be seen as an indicator of the imperfect matrimony between student-led online academia and internet anonymity, an issue that is being largely overlooked at the moment.

To be fair, these posts aren't always intended as revenge. No professor is perfect, and some have considerable faults that should be exposed. I wouldn't recommend hitting the caps lock or '#@\$!' to get the point across though.

'Revenge ratings' are often callous and rude, but this is a secondary issue and doesn't really matter. Professors have better things to do than get their feelings hurt by anonymous students, and they already have university-affiliated reviews at the end of each term to give them their fix of criticism.

However, Dr. Karsten Loepelmann, a Psychology Faculty Lecturer, says that RMP isn't entirely ignored because "if there are people talking about us it doesn't matter if it's online or in real life ... it could be something potentially constructive."

Personally, I'm mostly annoyed with revenge ratings because they're a waste of time to both produce and consume. Writers exchange their valuable time for brief, unmerited satisfaction. What's worse, readers must slowly wade through these one-way rants by childish students. It's a lose-lose situation. Raging student commenters would do well to remember that the target audience of RMP is not professors, and so they have little chance of 'getting even' with them. Comments on RMP are read first and foremost by students, and should be written with this in mind.

"Personally, I'm most annoyed with the revenge ratings because they're a waste of time to both produce and consume."

While searching for a scathing review to include for your enjoyment, I couldn't find the more colourful, bitterly enjoyable ones I remember reading. Since I used the website last semester, it seems that either RMP moderators or users have upped their standards.

I'm happy to see that these comments are beginning to be acknowledged in a way that will discourage petty use of language in the first place. Censoring posts is a Band-Aid solution, and also removes the freedom of speech from these types of public forums. Since internet comment sections are here to stay, we should be focusing on preventative measures. Hopefully this will alert potential 'revenge raters' of what their posts actually amount to, as well as remind readers that they don't merit being read past the first sentence.

the marble pedestal

COMPILED BY Shaylee Foord

Budget airlines

Despite a general disgust for airplanes (or, as I like to call them, Giant Flying Tubes of Other People's

Breath), being able to fly across the country in just hours is pretty cool, so I've accepted them as a necessary evil of traveling.

What I've never been able to understand is why people pay obscene amounts of money to sit first class and have what I can only assume is a very slightly less disgusting time than the rest of us. I'd rather spend a hundred bucks on a budget airline, crammed like cray-

ons into a plane that can't handle the weight of more than one item of luggage per passenger. A budget flight get you from point A to point B just as effectively for a fraction of the cost, without pretending that a bunch of people trapped in a metal bird can be a comfortable experience.

With a budget airline, you get what you pay for, in all of its gross, terrifying glory.

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Opinion Staff
GROUP COMMENTARY

Might as well make fourth-year burnout fun.

MLCS 399 (Rap class)

If you're looking for a class where you can show off your mad rap skills or put that part of your brain that stores unnecessary song lyrics to the test, look no further. MLCS 399: Special Topics: Hip Hop Culture will have you sailing to that easy A faster than Busta Rhymes can drop a verse. This course has no prerequisites, no final exam, one textbook filled with lyrics from The Sugarhill Gang to Eminem, and no obligatory alternative stage name (although it is preferred).

What's required in this course? An interest in rap music from the '80s until present, an understanding of 2Pac's T.H.U.G. L.I.F.E., and motivation to analyze lyrics by The Wu-Tang Clan. The goal of the course is to learn about Edmonton's hip hop scene and collaboratively write a book that showcases the findings.

So don't let the 300-level fool

you, this MLCS class is a fun and easy way to shed some light on your favourite rap songs. Unfortunately, you may be hard-pressed to find this class offered on Beartracks since Dr. Michael MacDonald left us to join the MacEwan rivalry, but let's hope someone will step up and teach this course again. -Ashton Mucha

Human Ecology 211 (Sex class)

This is the sex-ed class that the school boards didn't want you to have. Instead of a very Catholic grade 7 teacher, you get a very funny sex therapist (Shaniff Esmail) who shamelessly illuminates your mind with sex as a physiological characteristic, as a component of identity and as an act.

There are humorous topics — toys, for example — but also more serious topics like desire disorders and mental illnesses. Something for everyone. The class isn't hard as long as you can memorize a few things and get to class at 8:30 a.m. Get an A in this, because at some point you're going to need to know the difference between a NuvaRing and a glowstick. -Jamie Sarkonak

Comparative Literature 242 (Sci-fi class)

I am going to recommend a course that would assuredly, and accurately, have gotten me called a

nerd in grade school.

It might seem odd to study sci-fi in the same fashion as the classic literary canon, but although you might not find a *Firefly* DVD collection on an Oxford professor's bookshelf, popular sci-fi is by no means outside the scope of this course.

CLit 242 examines the entire genre of sci-fi, from its early beginnings to modern-day film and television. You'll learn what H.G. Wells thought the year 802701 might look like, what Jules Verne thought might be at the centre of Earth and what humanity might be like if gender didn't exist. You'll take a trip through the various phases of 20th century sci-fi, such as cyberpunk, steampunk and new wave, and watch films like *Blade Runner* and *Total Recall*.

200-level comp lit courses are not what I would call easy 4.0s, but if you have an interest in literature or science fiction, this one is well worth taking. C Lit 242 is a perfect choice for geeks like me who went to see *The Force Awakens* twice on opening night and know the answer to life, the universe and everything. -Riley Samson

ASL 111/112 (Sign language class)

I know how to talk with my hands now, that's pretty neat. -Zach Borutski



CHRISTINA VARVIS

Talking to guys about vaginas



Pia Araneta
SEX COLUMNIST

The vagina is complex — I'm sure we can all agree with that. It's not like the penis where you can take everything at face value, each part announcing itself so aggressively like a Kraken emerging from the depths of the sea to let you know "Hey, here I am. I've come to penetrate your emotions and wage disparity." No, the vagina requires far more maintenance and a basic understanding of clitoral placement in order to reach climax.

Other than vaginas being a cubby hole for guys to put their dick in, men don't typically regard the biology of vaginas and how they operate. Even mentioning a bleeding vagina — something I can assure you is natural and apparently quite common — causes males to shudder in their comfortable cocoons of oblivion. As a separate entity, the vagina is treated as a black hole which even light cannot escape from. So, what makes guys

so disinclined to learn more about vaginas? Why are men so scared of female genitals?

"The scariest part is looking at it. It's not as beautiful as it sounds. It's made to sound kind of sweet, like if you listen to certain songs or things about it, but when you actually see it, it's very different," says Tarisai Mbudzi, a third-year Economics student. "I think it's more of a mystery."

So, is it the appearance of vaginas? In my experience I've heard guys refer to vaginas with the most god awful terminology that I find myself wishing into a life of celibacy. Terms like "meat wallet" or "ham sandwich" have been carelessly tossed into conversations about wild Friday nights or hook-ups. To the female on the reciprocating end of that conversation: I am sorry.

"Cum dumpster," Jacob Nay, 21, regards as one of the worst things he's ever heard someone call a vagina. Jesus Christ.

"I mean if you treated the vagina like a person it would be your quiet friend who doesn't say a lot but they have a lot of layers to them and stuff, physically and emotionally. And so I'm not even willing to get to know that socially awkward

person because I can't deal with it. There's just too much going on...A dick is so much simpler. It's there and that's all there is to it. It's not like 'what's around door number two' or 'what's behind door number three,' you know what I mean?" says Thomas Kube, a student at the U of A studying psychology. "And plus the maintenance, oh my god. Like there's hormones involved and there's things you shove up there that come out looking like a battlefield."

Yes. I get it. Having a vagina is work. I'm not exactly celebrating when there's blood coming out of it, but at the same time, I think the main source of my creativity stems from my PMS.

When holding up a scientific diagram of the vulva, I was surprised to see how many guys could locate the placement of the clitoris. Approximately 50 per cent of my makeshift-survey-participants were able to correctly point to the clitoris, with others pointing to regions closer to the anus. With that knowledge I still bear hope. Not enough to tell me I can stop fake moaning every time a guy believes he has found the one key part of my vagina, but hope nonetheless.

Point/Counterpoint: Should we eat food?

Food is desire, desire is the root of all evil. Drink Soylent. Of course we should, food is good. This question is absurd.



Josh Greschner
POINT

The aestheticized experience of consuming food is a cultural orthodoxy such that many people think that the most stigmatized class of people in our culture, prisoners, have a right to food with at least minimal aesthetic qualities. Capitalism has extended the previously bourgeois concept of highly aestheticized food to everyone: a shining McDougle on a billboard uses the same appetizing rhetoric of a late Renaissance still life.

The aestheticization of the food experience, some would say, causes a few problems. Tremendous amounts of food are wasted, if not at farms then at grocery stores, because some food items are blemished, deformed etc. Also, aestheticized and high food consumption encourages the production of monocultures which leave agricultural ecosystems vulnerable to diseases.

But these are relatively minor grievances compared to how the food experience acts upon us. The food experience (even the fast food experience) is constructed to be artistic and emotional such that we strongly desire it (as opposed to simply nutrition) a few times daily. We think about eating, we talk about eating, we bond over how hungry we are and how much we will eat. Yet once that ephemeral food vanishes, the period of satisfaction gives way yet again to hunger.

The better the food is, the stronger our sense of loss afterward.

How do we escape this cycle? Of course, abstaining from eating means you'll starve, hallucinate and die, but if we want to truly save our time and avoid volatile desire, we would treat the experience of eating like going to the bathroom rather than like having sex: you can't help but go to the bathroom, but you go alone for a short amount of time when you need to, and you don't talk about it beforehand and afterward.

■ **Once that ephemeral food vanishes, the period of satisfaction gives way yet again to hunger. The better the food is, the stronger our sense of loss afterwards.**

The most practical solution to eliminate the aesthetic food experience is to make eating as dull as possible. Food should be nutritional, but it should be neither too elevating or too unpleasant: Soylent seems ideal because it is slightly sweet, but overall unremarkable. Prep and consumption time is minimal, and there isn't a feeling of longing when it's gone. To suggest it would eliminate the social experience that eating encourages underestimates our impulse to interact. All it takes is thinking around the prejudice that consuming goo means that we're living in some Orwellian nightmare.



Christina Varvis
COUNTERPOINT

What kind of question is this? It's like asking ourselves "Should we be happy?"

Even as I'm sitting here slowly typing away with my one hand, a fresh, warm pita wrap is seriously distracting me in the other, (while thoughts of what I should eat later and tomorrow are floating around in my head amidst fond memories of everything I ate over the weekend). Basically, food is on my mind all day err day and it's on my list of the very limited things that can successfully get me out of bed in the morning. And honestly, I wouldn't have it any other way. Know what I mean? Of course you do.

Eating food isn't a chore or something that is a waste of time and space. It is one of the most beautiful, exciting, valuable and gratifying pleasures and necessities in this world that make life so great, and if we were to take it away and replace it with anything less than what it is, then we might as well just crawl into a hole and die. We love to bond over food and our hunger and desire for it. It's true and I don't see that as a negative thing whatsoever, especially when you consider how diverse it is. Food brings cultures together in restaurants, festivals, and even potluck dinners, allowing for greater appreciation and knowledge of their traditions and people. It could also be considered a language all to itself. When someone surprises you with chocolate at work or cooks dinner for you, or even just

brings you a box of Corn Flakes one day, they're showing their feelings towards you through food, which makes it that much more valuable and memorable. All kinds of relationships and friendships (even the ones between people and their pets) become stronger thanks to food. And if you don't like people in general, food is still the reason why you're probably, hopefully able to tolerate everyone.

■ **Consuming food is an aestheticized experience, and it should be!**

Food is something that everyone should enjoy and not eat it only because we need it to live. I agree that consuming food is an aestheticized experience, and it should be! To aestheticize something means to represent it as beautiful and artistically pleasing. Why would anyone not want to eat a plate of food that was made to look good? Food is something that should be able to satisfy all the senses, because your senses deserve to be satisfied. As for the issue of wasted food that arises from this aestheticized experience, the solution is of the simplest: Don't waste food! Don't eat more than you can, cook the appropriate servings, and don't buy more than you need. Food should be celebrated, appreciated and given the utmost attention to quality always and even more so in this day and age.

If food is desire and desire is the root of all evil, then can someone please order me a large cheese pizza with extra cheese? *Insert evil laugh here.*

Ringling Bros. retiring performing elephants long overdue



Lisa Szabo
OPINION STAFF

Earlier this month The Ringling Brothers Circus announced its plans to retire all of its performing elephants by May of 2016 — more than a year ahead of schedule. While the announcement brings both relief and concern — mainly on account of the retirement facility in Florida the elephants will be moved to — the question remains: why are we still participating in these kinds of archaic practices?

Just Google "Ringling Brothers animal acts" and your search page will fill up with headlines like "12 Things Ringling doesn't want you to know," "Urge Ringling Bros to Stop Cruel Elephant acts NOW," and a link to a website entirely devoted to the circus' cruelty (ringingbeatsanimals.com). PETA has live tweeted Ringling shows, snapping photos of lions sitting on chairs, elephants posing on top of each other, and tigers in tiny cages with the hashtag #LiveAtRingling and #BoycottTheCircus, and enough people have supported these

kinds of causes to make some changes in the industry. Documentaries like *Blackfish*, *The Cove*, and — for the really brave — *Earthlings*, have pushed the save-the-whales-type movements into the mainstream, pressuring the animal entertainment industry and highlighting our own involvement in animal cruelty.

But the problem with animal en-

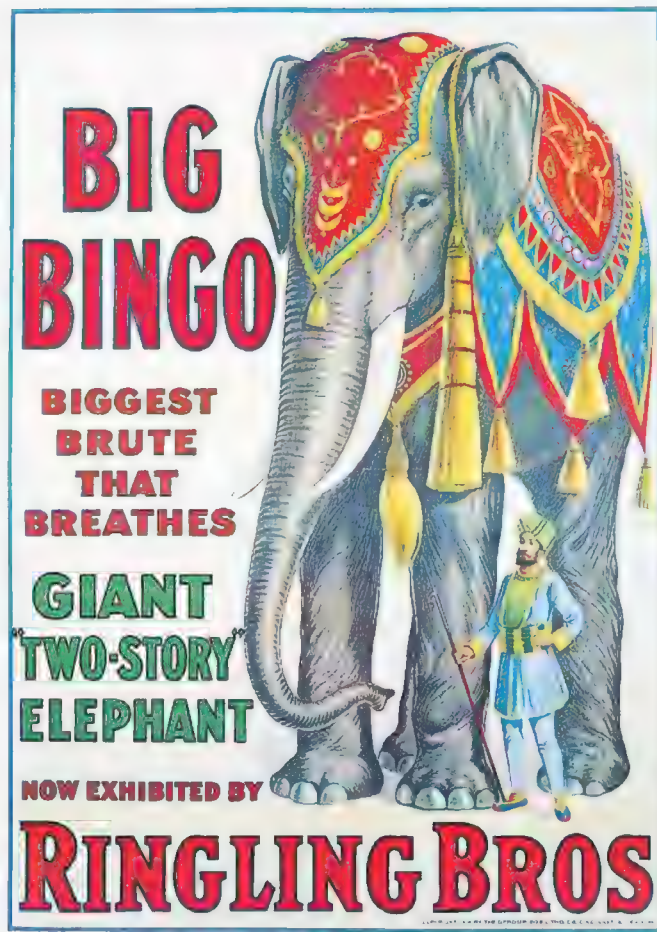
■ **(Sea Lion's Rock at West Ed) makes me wonder how how far we've come from bear-baiting after all.**

tertainment doesn't end with the Ringling Bros long overdue decision. Every weekend people herd themselves into Sea Lion's Rock at West Ed for one of the three afternoon shows, making me wonder how far we've come from bear-baiting after all. Although many circuses, zoos, and the like claim they treat their animals well — The Ringling Bros has a separate website devoted to their elephant conservation centre — the problem is not the "treatment," it's the idea behind the whole industry. Watch *Blackfish* and you'll hear from half a dozen ex-Sea World employees

who genuinely loved and cared for the animals they trained, proving that animal cruelty isn't just about bull hooks and cosmetic testing, it's about removing living creatures from their natural habitat simply because we want to be entertained by them.

Animal acts reinforce Tolstoy's claim that "as long as there are slaughterhouses there will be battlefields" — not because killing animals and people are synonymous, but because the idea that humans can exert their authority over "lesser species" leads to all kinds of brutality.

While I recognize animals that have grown up in captivity cannot simply be released back into the wild, we should contemplate the reason we have so many animals in captivity in the first place. Whether or not we try to justify the animal entertainment industry with claims like, "Well, we can't just throw them back into the wild," the problem remains that we continue to create a demand for animal entertainment that won't go away until we choose to relinquish our claim to dominion over anything and everything on earth. But the desire for the exotic, for knowledge, and most of all power, fuels an industry that should have been eradicated decades ago.



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the marble pedestal

COMPILED BY Nathan Fung

The Beaverton

It's pretty cool to see someone actually do something they said rather than just talk and leave it at that, like what *The Beaverton*, Canada's version of *The Onion*, tried to do last week when the

satirical publication tried to raise \$1 million to get entrepreneur and right wing blow-hard Kevin O'Leary to "go away forever."

The campaign started when Kevin O'Leary, the ex-*Dragon's Den* panelist who is no fan of Premier Rachel Notley and her NDP government, betrayed his complete lack of understanding of how democracy works by promising to invest \$1 million in Alberta's economy if Notley

resigned. I think it's reasonable to say that O'Leary better take a civics course on how elections work.

In response to such lunacy, *The Beaverton* posted a humorous article about how Canadians would give O'Leary \$1 million if he will go away forever. While they could've stopped there, *The Beaverton* tried to go above and beyond and started a gofundme campaign to actually raise that money in order to rid the coun-

try of what they saw as a negative influence on our public discourse (should O'Leary refuse *The Beaverton's* offer, the money was to be donated to charity). Alas the attempt was short-lived as the campaign was shut down less than 24 hours after it started as it was misinterpreted as a fundraising drive for Notley's government, only managing to raise \$620.00 in its short life.

Sadly we were denied the

opportunity to see the campaign reach a conclusion many of us would've loved to see, regardless if it was unlikely that O'Leary would've actually accepted the offer, but the fact that *The Beaverton* actually tried to do it wins them a few points. Hopefully this failed but noble attempt doesn't discourage any similar acts in the future, especially if O'Leary is serious about becoming a contender for the Conservative Party leadership.

WRITTEN BY ALYSSA DEMERS • DESIGN BY ADAIRE BEATTY



Beer — Geeks

HOW TWO ALBERTA ENGINEERING GRADS BROKE OUT OF THEIR
INDUSTRY AND FOUND THEMSELVES WITH CRAFT BEER

The first craft beer I ever had was Tin Whistle's pinnacle stout: The Killer Bee. Having only drank domestic draughts, my naïve, admittedly underage self was taken aback by the opaque, chestnut colour and the prominent, foamy head as it gracefully filled my glass. I remember the smooth, malty flavor of the beer that concluded splendidly with a subtle hint of honey. The potential for beer opened up for me, and I realized with a little thought, a little curiosity, and a little love, what a work of art a pint of beer could be. That's when my love of beer began.

Fast-forward to December 2015. I walked through the door of Beer Revolution in Oliver Square and sat between two men at the bar. Immediately after curt introductions, they both turned to me and asked me if I wanted a beer. I nodded and insisted they pick one for me. Soon after, a dark, robust stout was sitting in front of me and upon first sip I wondered if they had read my mind — this was exactly what I wanted.

The two men were craft brewery owners Shane Groendahl and Mason Pimm and this is their story of university, Beer Geeks Anonymous, the love for craft beer, and starting two small town breweries in the Alberta prairies.

Blindman Brewing's managing partner and assistant brewer, Shane Groendahl begins by discussing his beginnings in the beer scene in 2004 as a recent high school graduate working at a liquor store called Andrew Hilton. During his time there, he was introduced to a vast variety of different beers. He explains that the Wildrose IPA was a defining point for his entry into the world of craft beer.

"It was like the light bulb going off in my head. Suddenly, this beer had flavour, and bitterness; resinous, piney-kind of citrus flavour. I was like 'wow, this is something I want to drink,'" Groendahl remembers excitedly.

Nodding in agreement, Two Sergeants managing partner and assistant brewer Mason Pimm shares his own story. He fell in love with home brewing and as his passion for craft beer grew, he decided to one day make it himself on a larger scale.

"I learned more and grew as a person in a field that I enjoy," he says simply. His flagship

craft beer? The Red Racer IPA.

Apart from his craft brewery, Groendahl is also the president of Edmonton's craft beer group known as Beer Geeks Anonymous. Their mission is to promote local craft breweries and create a higher level of awareness and knowledge about the industry. The group does this by hosting monthly meetings and a plethora of events. Groendahl's previous attempts to break into the beer industry were through his presidential role in Beer Geeks Anonymous. He met the other co-owners of Blindman Brewing through this venture.

In recent years, the Alberta craft beer industry has expanded. Initially a niche market only the most dedicated beer geeks delved into, craft beer is now becoming increasingly dominant in the beer markets, mainly with Canadian microbreweries like Granville Island, Big Rock, and Wildrose. The food service industry is catching on to this new interest in unconventional brews; chain restaurants such as Beer Revolution, Craft Beer Market and MKT have opened their doors in Edmonton and host a variety of draught and bottled beer, as well as Gastropub food and bar snacks. The market is changing. Patrons now want to experience something different from typical chain food. They want something unique, and something of quality.

So why has the market shifted so suddenly? Pimm muses that the cultural shift around the awareness of craft beer is to blame. Accessibility towards craft beer information has expanded due to the prevalence of the Internet and social media. It's shown Albertans a new side of beer, and the wave continues to grow as the number of small breweries in Alberta rises. The people have spoken, and breweries are responding.

Both Pimm and Groendahl graduated at the University of Alberta with degrees in Engineering, but this proved to fall short of their expectations for their careers and level of fulfillment in their lives. As Pimm elaborates, he quit his engineering career a year ago to focus on craft beer, creating the opportunity for himself in the brewing industry. He hasn't looked back since.

In the tumultuous career market and struggling economy, the prospect of a job

in engineering is appealing. It's a secure career with an optimistic outlook in a trades and industry-driven province. This notion is what ultimately appealed to Groendahl and influenced his choice in the discipline. He explains that being an engineer has a potential, or 'glowing aura' around it, so he went on to finish his degree, but ultimately views it as an uninspired decision. For Pimm, engineering was a far off dream that unfortunately wasn't as exciting as the reality. He remembered in junior high when he wanted to be an aerospace engineer and vowed to one day work for NASA. He went to school and became an engineer, but his dream fell flat when he realized the climate of the industry and how idealistic that dream really was.

Groendahl describes his shift into craft brewing as a moment of epiphany.

"It was very serendipitous. There was a point in my life where I wanted something to call my own," he elaborates. "It took being passionate towards beer in my private life to make me realize that I can be passionate towards beer in my work life too."

"It took me a while to figure it out."

Pimm found this moment through the insight of his parents. It, too, was a moment of epiphany, as he never considered leaving his engineering career a viable option.

"I found myself running into walls everyday, thinking that I wasn't happy. I ended up leaving my job, and trying to find this unique opportunity and looking around for something meaningful," he recalls. "It wasn't until I had that presented to me by my parents where I thought, 'wow, I can do whatever I want. I don't have to do this anymore.'"

Consequently, both Groendahl and Pimm are now immersing themselves into their career of choice in the Craft Beer Market and they couldn't be happier with the results.

To come up with a new beer recipe, Pimm and Groendahl sit down with their co-owners and brewmasters and do what they do best: have a beer and talk. At the Blindman Brewery, the owners and brewmaster enjoy a beer from another brewery. They discuss what they like and dislike about the beer, and how they could create a version of that beer that is uniquely theirs, yet continues to integrate similar

components. It happens with a discussion, with research and with insight from the brewmaster. Pimm agrees and adds that it takes self reflection from all parties involved, and a conversation about what everyone wants from the beer.

"It's a bit of luck, a bit of trial and error. That's how we take it," he explains.

While I spoke to the brewers, a patron at the bar and Pimm began to converse. Afterwards, I asked what they were talking about and Pimm excitedly mentioned that the man was having a pint of Two Sergeant's beer and wanted to let him know that he enjoyed it.

"Brewers are always willing to talk. (They're) some of the friendliest people in the world," explains Groendahl.

Being the co-owner of a local craft brewery allows for dialogue between the brewer and the patron who is consuming the product. This dialogue leads to instrumental rapport for recipe development and returning customers.

However, the beer needs to speak for itself. It needs to provide a message to the consumer — What flavours? What type of malt? Hops? What is this beer trying to achieve? Will it warm you up? Cool you off?

"The brewer can't be there all the time, sitting beside them, explaining the beer, so you kind of have to make that evident in the beer itself," Groendahl explains, gesturing towards the beer in his hand. "You have to be very thoughtful of your own products and how other people are going to perceive it."

He elaborates that it is a matter of projecting your brewery's values and reasoning, and answering questions patrons have. Having that conversation is of huge value. Communication creates an intrinsic sense of community and brings everyone together with a common purpose.

Pimm hopes that people get into the craft beer scene, get educated and try new things. He concludes with a poignant reflection that represents the passion that both brewers hold about brewing, and ultimately following the road less traveled in life to achieve something great.

"It's been an amazing journey over the last year, what I am doing and where I am now, I'm happier than I've ever been," he concludes.

BLINDMAN BREWERY

BAY F - 3413 53 AVE · LACOMBE, AB
T4L 0C6 · 403.786.BEER (2337)

Blindman Brewing is located in the small industrial area east of downtown Lacombe, Alberta. The woodwork on the walls, bar and tables are polished and give the space a relaxed, yet unabashedly sophisticated feel. There's a lot of natural light, and the rustic, bare light fixtures hanging from the ceilings are an asset to the space — bonus points for the hanging light shaped like a hop seed. The pristine taproom looks like a space out of a magazine. The brewhouse is tucked

away in the warehouse behind a large room filled with tanks, coolers and bags of malted barley.

"A lot of people had been seeing our signs around town and were anticipating our opening, so they came out to see if the rumors were true," said Groendahl, "There's a lot of community support in Lacombe for all small businesses."

Mainly focusing on the taproom, Groendahl hopes to produce a small batch of beer every

week to test out. By only making one keg at a time, he says it'll keep things interesting for patrons and ultimately help with recipe testing.

"Just a great, great response, and we hope that it continues on. We love having people in our taproom and just being that center of the pinwheel in Lacombe. We want to be that place where people go on a Friday afternoon or Saturday afternoon to hang out with their friends and just add that connectedness to the community," Groendahl elaborates.

— On Tap —

BLINDMAN RIVER SESSION ALE

Light, crisp, dry, hop characteristics, fruity, tropical

LONGSHADOWS INDIA PALE ALE

Vermont style IPA, Bold hop characteristics, bitter, resinous, piney, citrus

SAISON LACOMBE: AUTOMNE

Belgian style farmhouse ale, rye, barley and wheat malt phenolic, spicy, tart, clove, orange peel, pepper

ROBUST PORTER

Smooth, dark, roasty, smoked malt characteristics, warming

TWO SERGEANTS BREWERY

#501 10470 98 AVE · FORT SASKATCHEWAN, AB
T8L 0V6 · 780-912-9319

A small brewery and taproom nestled away on a side street in Fort Saskatchewan, Two Sergeant's Brewery is a gem in the prairie city. Eclectic, bare light fixtures hang from the ceiling of the taproom, emitting a pale gold, ambient glow. The room is dark and relaxing, with dark wood flooring and picnic tables. To the right, the brewing tanks are unapologetically out in the open, with colourful lights softly shining on them, emitting a striking glow. The feeling

is rustic, like a pub in Scotland, yet refreshingly polished and chrome. The taproom is steady, with people scattered at the picnic tables nursing glorious pints of beer.

The busy taproom is nothing new for Pimm as he fondly recalls the lively group of regulars that have been with the brewery since the first day.

"It was a packed house, I was really surprised to see the response that we did get. To be able to walk around and point things out to people

and talk about the beer was really great," Pimm explains. "People were just really eager to get in there. It's been a pretty special experience."

"I think Fort Sask has been missing what we're offering for a long time; it feels good to fill that need," Pimm elaborates as he gives me a tour of the space. The patrons are friendly, and the feeling of community is ever present: Two Sergeant's Brewery is a fantastic and dynamic addition to Fort Saskatchewan.

— On Tap —

PATROLMAN'S ESB

Memorial beer for fallen Constable Daniel Woodall (portions of the proceeds going to the Woodall Family Fund), medium hop bitterness, malt sweetness in the aftertaste, coffee and caramel notes, amber colour

BANGALORE TORPEDO INDIA PALE ALE

Bold bittering yeast, sweetness from the hops, citrus and pine, golden colour

PASSION'D BELGIAN WIT ALE

Wheat ale, cloudy, smooth, citrus, orange on the nose, coriander notes

Arts & Culture

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Volunteer

Arts meetings every Wednesday at 4pm in SUB 3-04

Schools across Canada come together for improv festival

EVENT PREVIEW

The Notorious Improv Festival

WHEN Jan. 20-Jan. 23rd

WHERE CCIS 1-430 (Wednesday)
CCIS 1-440 (Thursday) Education North
N2-115 (Friday) City Arts Center 10943
84 Ave (Saturday)

HOW MUCH By donation (\$3-\$5 suggested)

Jamie Sarkonak

STAFF REPORTER • @SWAGKONAK

The University Improv Group will be hosting its fifth, and largest ever, Annual Festival next week.

Improv groups from eight different schools will be joining the UIG in the fifth Annual Festival, along with two different private companies: The Hitchhikers of Regina and RumblePak of Winnipeg. The higher number of performing groups gives this year's show to be bigger and better, workshop instructor Quinn Contini says.

Patrons, in short, can expect a good night out. This year's festival features a wide variety of improv sets, including a Christopher Guest inspired mockumentary set, a battle royale comprised of slow-motion fight scenes, and an improv musical. Besides making for a great show, bringing these different improv groups makes for an opportunity to "jam out some ideas together,"

Contini says.

"The biggest thing I want to do is push it," he says. "Just go to the next level, and see how much further we can go from last year."

The audience will also have an opportunity for involvement in some of the Annual Festival's sets. One of this year's interactive sets is Tinder Prof, where the audience collectively swipes on characters to match them. Last year, the audience matched a bird and a mop. This year's Tinder Prof will be bigger, with a wider range of objects and characters for the audience to choose from, promotions executive Dylan Sharp says.

"I'm really looking forward to keeping that high, romantic energy going," he says.

Once the audience chooses the match, the improvisers tell the story of the following first date, marriage and, perhaps, divorce.

The UIG's goal for the weekend is to build on its presence as a club at the University of Alberta and as an improv group in Edmonton. The club embraces failure as a source for learning, both in life and in improv, so even though this year's festival audience is likely going to be the largest the UIG has ever entertained, the performers are more excited than afraid. Failing comes with the side effect of being hilarious, Contini says.

"Something that audiences love 100 per cent of the time is watching people fail," Contini says. "I mean, how many times have you just gone

on YouTube and just looked up fail compilations."

Challenging yourself to think of something on the spot is the fun part of improv — and also saves you from having to memorize lines, drama officer Piper Rempel says. Failing in that challenge gives you the opportunity to say "yes" to another improviser's attempt to fix the situation.

"Even though you are nervous going on stage, you know that everyone else on your team is just as nervous," she says. "That community makes it a lot easier."

Anyone interested in joining the UIG can drop in on one of their meetings, which are held Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in Humanities Lecture Hall 1 (HCL1).



SUPPLIED

brew crew featurette: KGB Brewing

Solstice Stout WRITTEN BY Gateway Staff

A stout with a porter sensibility. Heavy notes of dark chocolate followed by smaller hints of licorice and oaky coffee. With very little carbonation, it doesn't dance around your mouth like many beers, this one wallows on the tongue. I'm perfectly okay with that, as it tastes really good, with afternotes of bitter coffee and scotch. Despite this, it varies significantly from bottle to bottle, changing from sour to bitter and back again. —Mitch Sorensen

It pours like church wine and flops down the throat. Describing the taste isn't easy: it's not quite "wet cigar," and it's earthy but not so earthy that it's "like the soil in which a reliable family member decomposes." After a few sips I understood it a little better: it's beer that tastes like Glenfiddich. It's loud and obnoxious and loveable as your little cousin's punk band playing at The Pawnshop. So I drank more. —Josh Greschner

This beer pours smoothly, low carbonation and little head, there's a strong aroma of coffee on the nose. Upon first sip there's strong flavor of coffee, dark chocolate. Yet it is not very rich, it carries more of a charred oak, sour taste to it. The low carbonation level makes the flavors more overt and abrasive, yet it is warming and enjoyable. —Alyssa Demers

Solstice Stout is puzzling, I mean it's brewed in an apartment, so I'm instantly charmed. There's earthy tones of chocolate and coffee for sure and it's acidic as all hell. There's this episode of *The Simpsons*, Homer attempts to grow tomatoes, but accidentally splices them with tobacco seeds, thus creating "Tomacco." I wouldn't go as far as to say this stout tastes like cigarette butts, but this isn't the holy grail of stouts. Regardless, I finished the bottle and can't help but want more. —Jon Zilinski



KGB Brewing WRITTEN BY Mitch Sorensen

With monikers like "Barley Legal," "Pil Collins" and "Radacted Black Ale," it's clear that the duo that run Kaz and Grant Brewing (KGB) know how to name a beer.

A nanobrewery operating out of one of the purveyor's houses, KGB is operated by Kaz Haykowsky and Grant Braidwood, who are not only friends, but also students at the U of A.

Their latest creation, back by popular demand, is the "Solstice Stout." Hailed as "an elixir for the longest night," the 22-litre batch is bottled and given away to friends.

As essentially a home brewery, volumes are small, but Haykowsky says that this allows them to experiment with a variety of flavors.

"We've probably produced 12 or 13 batches, all with different additives and flavours," Haykowsky says.

With their newest creation

featuring the addition of toasted chocolate malts and oak chips used in wine fermenting, Haykowsky says the standard stout kit they used as a base has taken on an entirely different flavor profile.

"It's really chocolatey," says Haykowsky, "with hints of licorice and some burnt flavors off the oak and toasted malts."

Possessing neither the heavy body nor creamy texture of a stout, Haykowsky draws the closest comparison between his brew and a Baltic-style porter. Another special element are the labels, created specially for the larger batches by Haykowsky's sister Mika.

"She doesn't often do labels, but we hit her up to make these and I think she did a great job," says Haykowsky.

As they've been brewing since 2012, KGB's supporters can look forward to new concoctions around once per month.

fashion streeters

COMPILED & PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Christina Varvis**

Maria Andrade
POLITICAL SCIENCE II



GATEWAY: Describe what you're wearing.

MODEL: I recently took everything I didn't wear and donated it. I went to Value Village and picked out a bunch of stuff that I really liked, so I have no choice but to use things correctly, otherwise i'll look terrible.

GATEWAY: Do you have anybody that inspires you?

MODEL: I think there's really stylish people at the U of A, so every time i'm in class and I see someone thats rocking something cool, I'll think about it, so when I'm out shopping I'll see something that would work in the same way or differently.



ANNA CAMPBELL

Remembering Alan Rickman

Akanksha Bhatnagar
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

I would be lying if I said I haven't wanted to use a transfiguration spell on Professor Snape to turn him to a slug. On Jan. 14, 2016 — Alan Rickman, who will always be Professor Snape to me, passed away at the age of 69. The *Harry Potter* series is, and will always continue to be my light at the end of a tunnel, and the loss of my favourite antagonist will hurt for a long time.

Alan Rickman, a talented man who not only played Professor Severus Snape in the *Harry Potter* series, but excelled in his roles as Hans Gruber in *Die Hard*, Jamie in *Truly, Madly, Deeply*, Harry in *Love Actually*, among others. Not only was he involved in the world of Hollywood, his interests ran into the

world of stage performances including the lead role of Mark Antony, in *Mark and Cleopatra* in 1998.

His talents not only lied with acting, but with directing — in 2005 Rickman directed an award-winning play, *My Name is Rachel Corrie*. Being someone who was consistently politically active throughout his life, and actively involved in charities like Saving Faces, and the International Performers' Aid Trust, his self-directed play was assembled from several emails by Rachel Corrie, a student who was killed by a bulldozer whilst protesting against the actions of the Israel Defense Forces in the Gaza Strip.

In the *Harry Potter* world, Snape was known mostly as a hoarse character, a character who so many despised. Alan Rickman's kind heart was hidden beside the facade

of Snape. Though the role of Snape changed the lives of many — from Danielle Radcliffe to Kate Winslet, no single person had anything but kind words for Alan Rickman.

Daniel Radcliffe had this to say on Alan's passing: "People create perceptions of actors based on the parts they played so it might surprise some people to learn that contrary to some of the sterner (or downright scary) characters he played, Alan was extremely kind, generous, self-deprecating and funny... I will carry the lessons he taught me for the rest of my life and career. Film sets and theatre stages are all far poorer for the loss of this great actor and man."

As for the rest of us, Alan Rickman was and will continue to resonate in the heart of *Harry Potter* fan across the globe.

datapp

WRITTEN BY **Kim Stone**



Neko Atsume

COST Free
PLATFORM iPhone, Android



Stock up on lint rollers because you're about to become a crazy cat lady. This game allows you to collect up to 49 cats, which you fortunately never need to clean up after.

The game starts off in a small empty yard, but you can purchase food and different toys to attract cats, and soon you'll have a new collection of felines playing or lounging every time you open the game. Once the cats get tired of the activities in your yard, or you run out of food for them, they'll leave but not without giving you a gift that you can use to purchase new toys or even expand and remodel your yard to accommodate more cats.

The real fun does not from watching the cats play—although the cartoons are seriously adorable—but instead from the challenge luring rare cats into your yard. 17 of the games cats are considered rare, meaning you have to play your cards right for them to come to your yard. This makes you constantly checking back to see which cats have come to visit you since you've left.

The game also allows you the ability to take pictures of your cats for your very own cat album. It feels like a grand achievement when you can put a new cat's picture into the album, and allows you to look back fondly and with pride at the rare cat that you were lucky enough to catch in your yard.

While it is a simple game, certain features take time to uncover, including the ability to rename cats or unlocking the daily prizes. Other features are even more mysterious though, such as the purpose of the cats having personality traits and power levels.

Whether or not you completely adopt the cat lady lifestyle playing *Neko Atsume*, the cute cats can be a source of entertainment for at least a few minutes out of the day.



SUPPLIED: HEATHER POLLACK

Blue Rodeo connects with their country roots

MUSIC PREVIEW

Blue Rodeo

WITH Terra Lightfoot
WHEN Wednesday January 20 – 8:00 pm and Thursday January 21 – 8:00 pm
WHERE The Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium (11455 87 Ave NW)
HOW MUCH \$25-\$80 (ticketmaster.ca)

Jessica Jack
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

There's no doubt that Blue Rodeo is considered to be a Canadian treasure. The band has been together for over 30 years, and they're still performing and writing new music, as well as re-living older classic hits. As their music has evolved and grown over time,

they've become "comfortable with their Canadian identity," as drummer Glenn Milchem says. They're in the beginning stages of their nation-wide tour, hitting Edmonton for two shows on January 20th and 21st. With the recent releases of their albums *In Our Nature* and *Live at Massey Hall*, Blue Rodeo has truly connected with their Canadian country roots. *In Our Nature*, in particular, showcases the band's authentic sound, particularly due to its recording process. The album was recorded in Greg Keelor's (founding member, alongside Jim Cuddy) home in the rural parts of Southern Ontario. The band recorded the entire album in his living room alongside a mobile recording unit. "I love recording at Greg's place," Milchem says. "Mostly

because I love being able to go for a walk in the countryside in between takes and clear your head."

"I love recording at Greg's place."

GLENN MILCHEM
DRUMMER

"It's absolutely beautiful out there." He also mentions that the Southern Ontario countryside "speaks to it's own musical tradition."

By recording at Keelor's home, albums like *In Our Nature* and *Nowhere to Here* are the epitome of the band's aesthetic. They have truly embraced what it means to be a Canadian country rock band,

allowing audiences to connect with their authenticity. One of the main reasons for the band's decision to record at Keelor's home is due to his recent hearing loss. Milchem mentions how it was easier for Keelor to record here as it provided a comfort zone. He was able to adjust equipment and recording spaces to fit his needs more easily than that of a professional recording studio in Toronto. However, despite these challenges, the album was a great success for the band and provided audiences with a true Canadian country vibe. Milchem believes that Blue Rodeo truly found its true sound with the release of their album, *Five Days in July*. "Basically the band went from being an all-electric rock and roll band to kind of a band that had a broader sonic palette and could play quieter stuff and more rustic sounding music," he says. This can also be heard on their most recent album, *Live at Massey Hall*, as the band has a well-established niche. Blue Rodeo's tour kicked off in Thunder Bay and continues across Canada until Feb. 27 in St. John's Newfoundland. Milchem mentions that the set is around two hours and ten minutes with a handful of new songs, as well as classic tunes that the fans will enjoy hearing once more. "We're doing four new songs, one of which is a nine-minute epic. Also we're doing a bunch of songs that we haven't done in several years, so we are biting off a lot," Milchem says, for Edmonton fans, they can expect an ambitious setlist.



VIJAY GUPTA

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CHRISTINA VARVIS

Vance Joy rides the riptide through Edmonton

Raylene Lung
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

Australian native Vance Joy returned to Edmonton on Jan. 16 after multiple previous visits to bring a warm, intimate set to the snowy city. After local act Reuben in the Dark opened with their alt-rock setlist, the mood was set for the main act's to blow the crowd away with his singer-songwriter aesthetic.

He played each song with emotion, offering smiles and acknowledging nods as the crowd clapped and sang along. Vance Joy enhanced the already intimate Jubilee Auditorium by personally welcoming the crowd, offering commentary before certain songs and telling stories about adjusting to the frigid Edmon-

ton weather. Each song was sung with a genuine passion often missing in other artist's performances, enhancing the connection between performer and crowd.

Vance Joy handles his shows with a humble grace and poise not commonly found in famous artists. A moment that this key characteristic to present itself came when the audio began to crackle and fail mid-song, only three or four songs into the set.

At first it was minor, and he kept on plowing through the song, unphased. However, it soon worsened, the crackling became unbearable and the audio cut out. Meanwhile, the artist kept on singing his heart out until a member of his team came out and told him to temporar-

ily leave the stage until they solved the problem. All smiles, Vance Joy apologized to the crowd and told everyone he would be right back, all the while remaining as calm and cool as anything. After a brief five minutes, the audio issue was resolved and the singer strode out onto the stage, guitar in hand and went right back to the song, acting as though nothing had occurred.

The professionalism with which he presents himself is far beyond his age. With his effortless guitar sounds and relatable lyrics, every from age eight to eighty is sure to enjoy a Vance Joy show. His soothing voice will only draw you further into his performance and his playful approach to performance is sure to leave you satisfied.

Brooklyn-based band is dreaming on their way to Edmonton

MUSIC PREVIEW

DREAMERS

WITH Modern Space, The Arkells
WHEN Jan. 30: Doors @ 7:00 p.m.
WHERE Shaw Conference Centre
(9797 Jasper Ave NW)
HOW MUCH \$32 (ticketfly.com) \$1
from each ticket will go to Partners
In Health Canada

Shaylee Foord
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

"ARE YOU A DREAMER?" flashes in big neon letters in front of a picture of the moon on the homepage of DREAMERS' website. The rest of the page is dinosaurs, Illuminati symbols, and pictures of the band,

all flashing like technicolor strobe lights in front of a backdrop of outer space. The bright, pulsing energy matches the Brooklyn band's infectious sound — a sound that over the course of their year and a half playing together has earned them praise from Billboard, NOISEY, Fader, and Sirius XM's AltNation, just to name a few.

Their most recent single, "Shooting Shadows," is a compellingly moody dance beat with venom-packed in the lyrics, they've rightfully compared to the Arctic Monkeys. "We're definitely a big mix of influences," says vocalist Nick Wold.

From the jazz they grew up playing, to the basement grunge of Wold's own hometown of Seattle, it all has an impact on their music. "We love brit-rock... we're all huge Beatles fans, so that's probably

where that comes from."

The success of DREAMERS' first self-titled EP is a testament not only to their musical ability, but their fearless, experimental attitude.

"The great thing about making music is that it attracts people from all over the world who are in some way like minded..."

NICK WOLD
VOCALIST

"We like to believe in anything we want to do, and not restrict ourselves with insecurities or self-doubt," Wold explains of the band's manifesto to "push boundaries and

rewrite the rules." The philosophy is one they share with their fans, with a section on their website for visitors to submit their own dreams, whether a life goal or a dream they had last night.

Even their Twitter and Instagram handles — DREAMERSjoinus — suggest a collaborative idealism. "The great thing about making music is that it attracts people from all over the world who are in some way like-minded. It's kind of a call out for people to come together, from any background and any point," says Wold.

Right now the band is dreaming on the road, waiting for February 5th to release three more songs as an EP called "You Are Here" before their first full-length album. The album was recorded in Sound City Studios in LA, which has seen such

greats as Nirvana and the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

"All kinds of amazing things happened there, so it kind of made us do our best. We're really happy with the outcome!" says Wold.

Meanwhile, the band is touring with Arkells and Brazilian Girls, they're looking forward to branching out to different parts of the world. "We've only played a couple shows in Canada, so we're excited about this tour," s ays Wold.

They love meeting new people on tour, even though the day-to-day is spent mostly on the road. "Right now we're out on the open highway, surrounded by orchards of these strange white trees," Wold describes, earning a laugh from someone in the vehicle. "I have no idea where we are." For DREAMERS, it's all about the journey anyway.



SUPPLIED



SUPPLIED

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U of A Scuba Club uniting adventure seekers on campus

Zach Borutski
SPORTS EDITOR • @ZACHSPRETTYCOOL

Alberta is completely landlocked, but that hasn't stopped the U of A's Scuba Club from trying bring underwater adventure to the university population.

Established in 2007, the club offers many incentives to students eager to try scuba diving. The goal for club president Laurence Pryor, a third year PhD student studying a nickel deposit in the Yukon, is to create a welcoming and accessible environment for new members.

"What we want to show (people) is that there is diving (in Alberta), and that there are ways of affording it, even on a student budget," Pryor said.

The club makes the best of what they have in Alberta's physical geography, hosting lake dive events around the province, and doing basic instruction in the Butterdome pool on campus. A particular highlight for the club this year was a dive in Clear Lake, in which members participated in an underwater pumpkin carving contest.

"It was a shit day, -2 C and snowing sideways, but everyone still had a great time," Pryor said.

Scuba diving is viewed as an expensive activity, but the club offers a bursary for members less than 21 years of age through money received from a partnership with the Alberta Underwater Council. The major prerequisites for bursary includes having completed open water dive training, having participated in at least one scuba club event, and four hours of volunteer work with the club. Students who qualify for the bursary receive up to \$400 towards their diver training at any place that offers it. The club itself doesn't do full dive training, but they can set people up learn on their own time, essentially for free.

able to offer not only the free introductory sessions, but offer complete certification," Maier said.

The bursary also covers the introductory sessions the club offers every month called Discover Scuba Diving, which are run by PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors), and are geared towards members with limited scuba experience. These sessions happen monthly, with the next one taking place on Feb. 17 in the west swimming pool in Van Vliet. The course itself is very hands on, with participants getting into the pool almost immediately.

"We try to keep the theory to a minimum, and the experience to a maximum," Pryor said.

For anyone who's looking for a more stimulating experience than diving in a pool, the scuba club also runs international trips every year. This year, they're going to the Bahamas in February and May. Divers stay on a 65-foot sailboat, in dormitory style accommodations, which gives the trip a very student-friendly atmosphere.

Maier attended the club's trip to the Bahamas last year, and said it was one of his most enjoyable diving experiences.

"The Bahamas is special because

"It's like the backpacker/hostel version of a dive trip."

LAURENCE PRYOR
U OF A SCUBA CLUB PRESIDENT

Andrew Maier, a Computer Engineering Masters student who served as club president from 2013 up until the beginning of the school year in 2015 said that the bursary has allowed the club to make significant progress in member retention.

"That's been the biggest turn for our club I think, because we've been

they really put you in a student environment," he said. "You need no diving experience to go on (the trip), that's the coolest thing."

"It's like the backpacker/hostel version of a dive trip," Pryor added.

Both Maier and Pryor have formed a connection to scuba diving due to the amazing sights it allows them to see. Maier referenced a Cenote dive he did in Mexico, which involves diving into a large sinkhole and exploring different caverns underground.

"You're isolated, but you're being shown this other world that maybe only a handful of people have ever seen."

ANDREW MAIER
FORMER SCUBA CLUB PRESIDENT

"I remember doing the cavern dive, and looking down and seeing the rays of light through the water. It just looked surreal," he said.

For Pryor, his shark feeding dives in Fiji will always stick in his mind, especially when he saw his only hammerhead shark. He knew this particular dive was different when

the smaller sharks didn't immediately take the bait.

"I got a little nervous, so I dumped the food and swam behind the barrier they have for tourists. As soon as I did that, this hammerhead sashes his way in, destroys the bait, and then swims off into the blue," he said. "This is a shark that a four-metre bull shark is scared of. I was so glad I got out of there."

Camila Hurtado, a third-year Animal Health major, and the club's Vice President of Finance, has also had the chance to see brilliant sights while diving. Despite being less experienced than both Pryor and Maier — only having been introduced to scuba diving in 2013 — she still did her open water certification in Mozambique, which allowed her to get a first-hand look at manta rays and whale sharks.

"I think it spoiled me a little bit, because it was my first time diving outside of a pool," she said.

For the adventure seekers in the club, only scuba diving fulfills their desire to see some of the most unique environments on the planet.

"It's adventurous and humbling at the same time," Maier said. "You're isolated, but you're being shown this other world that maybe only a handful of people have ever seen."



THE ART OF ADVENTURE The U of A scuba club is uniting scuba enthusiasts on campus. AMANDA LAI



SUPPLIED



— Gbemisola Olutogon —
Engineering 4
Hometown: Calgary
Team: Volleyball

JAMIE SARKONAK

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

WRITTEN BY Jamie Sarkonak

Q: What kind of learning curve did you have to overcome balancing volleyball with engineering?

A: I definitely made a lot of mistakes, so I learned from my mistakes. I would try different ways of studying and see what worked for me. Now I've figured out what works best. I wasn't the best to go through my mistakes at the time but I'm glad I did.

Q: What's been the most inspiring moment to be on our volleyball team?

A: Just even in first year, there were a lot of fourth years and fifth years on the team. So it was inspiring just to see their work ethic and improvements, and that you can improve no matter where you are in your career.

Q: Were there any times you thought you might have to quit?

A: After I injured myself. Halfway into the injury was probably the toughest, when I was watching all my teammates play club and I wasn't able to play. But I'm glad I hung around and still supported the team.

Q: What was it like to start playing again after the injury?

A: It was exciting and frustrating at the same time, exciting that I was back playing and frustrating that I wasn't at the level I could be at right away. But I kept working at it and it came back.

Q: Outside of volleyball, what are some of your hobbies?

A: Well, volleyball is most of life and school is most of life, but I do really like cooking. I'm really passionate about healthy eating so I cook quite a bit on weekends when I have time.

Rogers place offers sneak peak for fans

Jamie Sarkonak

STAFF REPORTER • @SWAGONAK

It was -23 C outside, but that didn't stop hundreds of Edmontonians eager to visit the future home of the Oilers, Rogers Place, this past Saturday.

Still over half a year from completion and located in the city's downtown core, Rogers Place will seat 18,500 spectators and 20,000 concertgoers. The arena and attached Winter Garden are estimated to cost the city \$536.5 million. The entire Ice District project also includes an LRT connection, pedway and downtown community rink to be used for Oilers practice and MacEwan Griffins games.

The Winter Garden, which will encompass 24,000 square feet of public meeting space, is the main differentiating structure between Rexall Place and Rogers Place. The "tip of the oil drop" will serve as a queuing space where fans can stay warm indoors while waiting to enter a game or concert — right now, increased security can sometimes make Rexall Place's lines stretch into the cold outside. A corridor system will also connect the Winter

Garden to the MacEwan LRT.

MacEwan University student Mamoon Bhuiyan was happy to check out Rogers Place as an Oilers fan. Though he wished Rogers Place was a little further along in construction, the sneak peak was still "amazing," he said.

"I was born and raised here, so I've been watching hockey my whole life," Bhuiyan said. "It's actually pretty amazing (to see the new venue.)"

Associate Professor Dan Mason works in the Department of Physical Education and Recreation, and was involved in the early planning phases of Rogers Place and the Ice District as a consultant. Evaluations determined Rexall Place needed to be replaced or renovated, but renovations would have cost more than \$250 million, Mason said, so the idea to build an entirely new arena downtown was born.

"If you were going to have a new facility or renovate a facility the best way to do that would be to put it downtown," he said. "The idea would be to spur other development around it."

Making Rogers Place community-oriented as part of Ice District was partly to encourage more people to

live downtown. Right now, Edmonton has a lower downtown population compared to other cities, Mason said. Having more amenities, like an arena and another grocery store, will be part of what might increase the number of people in the area.

Constructing Rogers Place and Ice District might also benefit Edmonton now that the economy is slow, Mason said. The arena is providing jobs when other projects are being put on hold or cancelled.

"I think it will be interesting to see how the economy influences the success of the project as well, in terms of its use," Mason said.

MacEwan student Jessica Johnson was very happy to get a first look. From her perspective, Rogers Place is already starting to change downtown, she said.

"I think the city is just really revitalizing," Johnson said. "I've already noticed, just going to school, that it's just such a different crowd that's excited to come here now. Before, downtown had such a stigma that it was kind of getting run down."

If you missed Saturday's sneak peek tour, you can still watch a live stream of the lower bowl construction on the Rogers Place website.



NEW HOME Fans were able to take a tour of the still unfinished Rogers Place this past weekend.

KEVIN SCHENK

Concussions very prevalent in minor hockey

Report outs concussions as most common sporting injury from five to nine years of age

Kate McInnes

SPORTS STAFF

In Feb. 2014, 16-year-old Jeremiah Ellis sustained a concussion while playing hockey. He returned to the ice two months after his symptoms disappeared, only to have them return more severely when he took another hit in September. Before his accident, his academic average was 95 per cent — after, he had "low 80s and 70s."

"Even though I healed completely, I still felt that I'd never be at the same level again," Ellis said. "I just lost motivation."

Over the past several years, a national discussion about sports concussions, particularly among young athletes, has gathered steam within the scientific community and among parents. In light of Edmonton's Minor Hockey Week, which ran from Jan. 8 to 17, the University of Alberta's Injury Prevention Centre released a report stating concussions constitute 20 to 25 per cent of all hockey-related injuries for boys aged five to nine, making it the most common sports injury in that age group.

Don Voaklander, the director of the Injury Prevention Centre, said that, though body checking is prohibited for children 12 and under, the nature of the sport itself makes beginners highly susceptible to a serious injury.

"When you're five to nine years old ... you're just learning the sport," he said. "It's a developmental stage in hockey, so sometimes they'll catch an edge and fall under the boards or have some contact that more skilled players could avoid."

Because the frontal lobes of the brain continue to develop until age 25, concussions sustained at a young age pose serious long-term health risks if not treated properly, including attention deficits and difficulty performing daily tasks.

Voaklander said parents with children who have suffered concussions "have nothing to worry about" if they follow the suggested return-to-play protocol. He recommends a guideline for recovery time, in which parents track how long it takes from the day of the injury for symptoms to disappear and wait the same amount of time after that before allowing their child to return to the ice.

"You really want to avoid a second concussion while you're recovering from the first, because that second one will amplify any issues that might have occurred from the first concussion," he said.

Over the past 20 years, minor hockey has evolved from a mobility sport that provided economic opportunities to players from poverty-stricken households — like those of now-retired NHL players Maurice Richard

and Gordie Howe — to an activity that relies more on professional coaches and trainers than parents and volunteers. In 2012, Hockey Canada reported parents with children in minor hockey spend an average of \$3,000 annually on registration, equipment and travel.

Voaklander said he doubts the data compiled by the Injury Prevention Centre will "make much of a difference" to the most committed hockey parents, some of whom pay tens of thousands of dollars a year on hockey programs and academies.

"Hockey is very culturally embedded in Canada," Voaklander said. "I doubt this will make a difference (to) ... anyone who's investing that much money in their kid's sport."

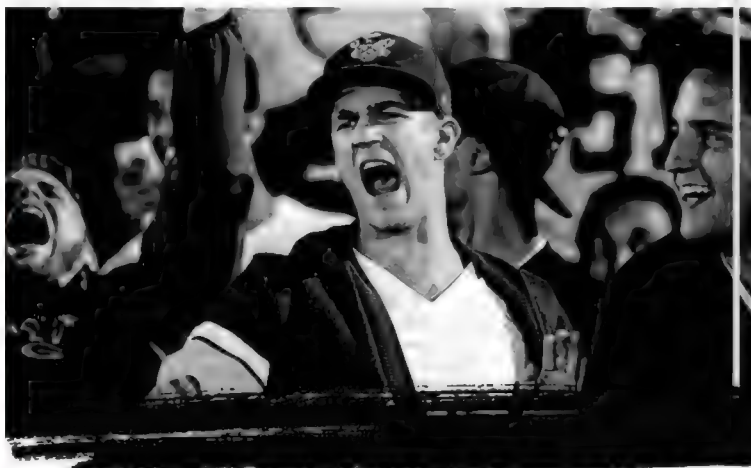
Ellis is now a first-year political science student at the U of A who plays non-contact intramural hockey in his spare time. He said he believes concussions would not occur as frequently in minor hockey if players were encouraged to perform less aggressively.

"Hitting itself (isn't) the big issue," Ellis said. "That's part of the game. The average body check isn't going to concuss you."

"It's the attitude that's developed in the game. Coaches encourage you to take out another player, and the refs accept that behavior. The whole culture needs to change."

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Fancystats

Using possession numbers and shot suppression to understand a defenceman's impact on the game

Cam Lewis
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • @COOOM

Last week, I received an email from a reader who was concerned that the introduction to fancystats article I wrote failed to explain how to judge a defenceman's impact within the system of analytics. To paraphrase, he said I only explained how players can be measured as offensive weapons and how I missed out on the value playing strong stand-up defence.

This is correct. In my introductory article, I didn't specifically break down how each type of player could be measured. First, I wanted to build an understanding around the basic premise of the advanced stats movement, which is that the ultimate goal of the game is for a team to outscore their opponent, and that possession numbers, or shot attempts, are the most objective and efficient way to measure the extent in which a player is helping their team do just that.

What the individual who emailed me failed to understand, though, is that measuring shot attempts doesn't just help us understand which player is creating the most offence. These numbers also shine light on which players are able to suppress their opponent's scoring chances, giving us a metric more effective and objective than the simple eye test for determining a player's defensive value. Before we get into it, let's break down why the traditional view of the defensive game isn't all that useful.

When you think of statistics that measure how good a player's defensive game is, numbers such as hits, blocked shots and takeaways will likely come to mind.

In a post on his Hockey Prospectus in 2010, analyst Rob Vollman claimed that traditional defensive statistics are flawed, as hits and blocked shots vary from one scorekeeper's subjective view to another. This relates to what famously regarded sabermetrician Bill James suggested in one of his early Baseball Abstracts. James complained that baseball's traditional measurement of defensive skill through the use of errors wasn't useful, because the idea of what should be recorded as an error comes down to who's keeping score that day. One scorekeeper can be nice, one can be harsh, and at the end

“What the numbers can do, though, is show which player is less likely to have to dive face first into a shot based on their overall play and contribution to the game.”

of the day, there's no way to determine whether or not player A's errors are the same as player B's errors.

Vollman also claims that there is no quantifiable evidence that can support the idea that any of these traditional defensive metrics actually relate to the prevention of goals scored. Furthermore, he points out there are many other ways in which a player can contribute to the prevention of goals through ways that wouldn't be quantified as a hit, takeaway, blocked shot, or anything that scorekeepers bother to track.

Another noticeable flaw in the aforementioned metrics is that they all reward a player who's essentially following the game. When you record a hit or a blocked shot, there's a very good chance that the other team has the puck, and if you're doing it all the time, it's reasonable to infer that you aren't the one dictating or carrying the play. I mean, it isn't a terrible thing that a player is hitting or blocking shots by

any means, but it's largely indicative of something you don't want to be doing, which is following the play.

Kent Wilson, one of the pioneers of the advanced stats movement, summarized it perfectly when he Tweeted: “Blocking shots is like killing rats. Doing it is preferable to not, but if you're doing it all the time it suggests you have bigger problems.”

So how can we actually measure a player's defensive contribution? The next traditional place to look would be a player's plus/minus, which simply measures their one-ice goal differential at even strength. But that's not really fair, because a player who plays in front of a terrible goaltender is certain to be on the ice for more goals against than somebody who plays in front of a Vezina Trophy winner. It also fails

“The best way to quantify a player's defensive value is by determining the extent in which they suppress the other team's ability to score goals.”

to measure what that player's individual impact was to a certain play, as he could receive a plus or a minus while not being involved in the play in any capacity.

Rather than looking at the results (the goals), we need to take a step back and look at the process that went into them. The best way to quantify a player's defensive value is by determining the extent in which they suppress the other team's ability to score goals. Does that sound familiar? Let's take what I explained last week and flip it around completely.

Last week, I concluded that keeping track of a player's shot attempts was the best way to determine their value to the true objective of the game — outscoring the opponent. Things like board battles won, strong outlet passes, and skilled maneuvers in the offensive zone are all represented by the shot attempt. Ultimately, we can infer that when a team generates a shot attempt, they were doing something right, and in that individual sequence, in one way or another, they beat the other team. So if a player owns a Corsi For percentage of 60 per cent at even strength, they're helping the team generate significantly more opportunities than the opposing team when they're on the ice, which is the sign of something good.

Now, flipping that around, the Corsi number can also imply that a player is skilled at reducing the other team's ability to generate chances. For example, you may never see Martin Marincin, a lanky, awkward looking Slovakian defenceman on the Toronto Maple Leafs, throw a hit, or hell, really do anything on the ice, but when you look at his underlying numbers, you'll notice that very few players in the NHL are allowing fewer shot attempts against per 60 minutes than he is.

This can, and should, be broken down much further. From here, we can isolate Marincin's numbers to determine whether this elite shutdown play is actually his doing. According to HockeyAnalysis.com, nearly everybody on the Maple Leafs has better possession numbers when they play with Marincin than they do when he isn't on the ice with them. For example, when Roman Polak and Marincin play together, which they do a lot, they allow 48.08 shot attempts against per 60

minutes. Then, when you split them apart, Marincin allows 49.57 shot attempts against per 60 minutes, while Polak allows 65.23. That's a huge difference.

But could this be a consequence of situation? Maybe Polak plays easier minutes when paired with Marincin? Thankfully, we can look that up too. When the two of them are together, they make 34.1 per cent of their shift starts (based on face-offs) in the offensive zone. When Polak is playing without Marincin, he makes 29 per cent of his starts in the offensive zone. That number isn't massive, but it does suggest that when Marincin and Polak are together, they're playing in more favourable offensive zone situations that could give their possession numbers a positive boost.

Regardless, we've determined that when Martin Marincin is on the ice, he does a good job at suppressing the other team's ability to generate chances. From here, we should sit down and watch him play to figure out why. From my experience watching him in his time with the Edmonton Oilers, I would deduce that he's excellent at making breakout passes and his long reach is effective in breaking up plays in the neutral zone. At only 23 years of age, we might have the makings of an excellent shut down player who would generally be overlooked for his awkward style and his traditionally soft game.

Of course, this isn't prefect. But it's much, much better than using hits, blocked shots, and plus/minus to come to any kind of conclusion about anything, and it's also much, much more efficient than watching hundreds of hours of game tape to asses all of the players you want to look at.

What I recommend is looking at a large sample size of possession numbers, then once you find the players you're interested in, using more advanced metrics like zone starts, with and without you stats, and shooting heat charts to get a general idea of a player's defensive value. Then, after that, you can sit down and watch the players you've set aside from the group, good or bad, and look and see whether the numbers actually are indicative of the value the player brings to the ice. By doing so, you might realize that the player you thought was an absolute rock actually isn't, and that there's a hidden gem, like Marincin, who isn't appreciated for whatever reason. That's what the Maple Leafs' front office did, and they got a cheap, controllable asset for not a hell of a lot last summer.

I'll finish with something from Calgary Flames President of Hockey Operations Brian Burke. He said in an interview last year with Sportsnet 960 that “a computer just registers a blocked shot; it doesn't show you that this guy dove headfirst to get it.” That is absolutely correct. In no way can fancystats tell you who has the balls to block a shot with their face. That's something you can only figure out by getting to know the players personally and watching them play. What the numbers can do, though, is show which player is less likely to have to dive face first into a shot based on their overall play and contribution to the game. Then we can go from there.

For links to sources, check out the online version of the article at gtwy.ca.

Bears basketball comes out of Victoria with split against Vikes

Jason Shergill
SPORTS STAFF

The Golden Bears basketball team continued their trend of inconsistent play in their first series of the new year, splitting their series with the University of Victoria Vikes.

The series was a back and forth affair, as the Bears followed up a 71-51 blowout with a close 66-60 loss on Saturday.

"Canada West's play is filled with split series," said Craddock. "It's the nature of playing a team back-to-back nights. The team that lost Friday always seems to have the extra energy and motivation the following night."

Friday's win was characterized by a fiery start for the Bears, who mounted a 20-6 lead by the end of the first quarter. From that point on, their lead was never in doubt. The Bears starters were hot from all over the court, combining for over 50 per cent shooting from the field with seven of the team's 10 three-pointers. As has been the case for most of the season, the team was led in scoring by third-year swingman Mamadou Gueye with 18 points, while chipping in five rebounds and three assists. Currently, Gueye leads the Bears in scoring, averaging 16.6 points per game, and sits second on the team with 7.5 rebounds per game.

Saturday's game saw the Bears in a hole early, facing a 10-2 deficit halfway through the first quarter. While they were able to take the lead by the second quarter, the game was in Victoria's hands for almost the entire second half. After the Vikes stretched the lead to 12 with just over five minutes left in the game, the Bears cut the lead to three with 1:23 left, but the Vikes held on and secured a win.

Gueye once again led the Bears in scoring, pouring in 16 points, while also pulling in nine boards in the loss.

Craddock noted the team's inexperience and how that played into the team's different performance

in the second game.

"Only when teams are veteran and consistent can they start to put those peak performances out on back-to-back nights," said Craddock. "We are young and need to learn how to perform more consistently."

The split brings Alberta to 5-6 on the season with another nine games left before playoffs. With about half of the season still to come, Craddock believes he can get more out of his team down the stretch.

"We have so many first and second-year players this year that we are hopeful to be better as the season goes on and they gain more experience," he said.

The Bears travel to Brandon next week for two games with the 0-10 Bobcats, but despite their record coach Craddock does not see them as a pushover.

"Any road trip is a difficult one in Canada West. Brandon has some very skilled players, a tough schedule and has been unlucky in a few games so far this season," Craddock said.

"Winning one game in Brandon will be a tough challenge. If we have aspirations of winning both games we will to play better basketball than we have in back-to-back evenings so far this season."

The Golden Bears clash with the Bobcats on Jan. 22 and 23.



SEARCH FOR CONSISTENCY Bears basketball hasn't won more than two games in a row this season. RUILIN FU



RUILIN FU

Varsity Sports Roundup

bears volleyball



3 - 1
3 - 0



The Golden Bears volleyball team, who have won 16 straight matches, were on the road in Kelowna last weekend to face the University of British Columbia-Okanagan Heat. Friday night's match started slowly for the Bears as they found themselves down 7-1 in the first set. From that point onwards, the Volley Bears tightened up their attacking game, outlasting UBCO significantly in the following three sets. Combined with 17.0 team blocks, the Heat

were outgunned, leaving the door open for the Bears to win the match 3-1. The rematch on Saturday saw the Bears continue to ride the wave of momentum from the previous games. Starting off with a hard-fought, 27-25 victory in the first, the Bears used a consistent, grinding attack, as well as solid blocking and serving to cruise to a straight sets win. The Bears will be at home next week, when the UBC Thunderbirds come to town. — Mitch Sorensen

pandas volleyball



1 - 3
2 - 3



In the second of two consecutive series against Top-3 CIS competition, the Pandas volleyball team left Kelowna with more blemishes on their record. In their first match against UBCO, the Pandas stormed out to an early 1-0 lead. In the second set, however, the Heat dominated on both the offensive and defensive sides of the ball. With blocking as the lone statistical category leaning in favor of the Pandas, they were outgunned and lost 3-1. Saturday night's match saw

the Pandas' high-powered offense meet its match as UBCO outkilled the Alberta team 64-46. With similar results in the blocking, serving, and digging arenas, the Pandas lost a back-and-forth affair 3-2. Things don't get much easier for the Pandas, as the UBC Thunderbirds visit Edmonton next week. UBC is the third straight top-5 CIS opponent for the U of A squad, who are 1-3 in January and looking to cap out the month at .500. — Mitch Sorensen

bears hockey



6 - 3
2 - 3



The Puck Bears continued their inconsistent start to 2016 with a split against the UBC Thunderbirds this past weekend. The weekend started off well enough for the green and gold, as they rode a three goal third period to a 6-3 victory on Friday night. Captain Kruse Reddick provided all of the offence in the decisive third, scoring all three goals for his team. UBC levelled the score on Saturday with a 3-2 win, holding off the Bears in a shootout despite

coughing up a 2-0 lead in the third period. Jordan Hickmott and Dylan Bredo each scored for the Bears in the third period to send the game to overtime. Despite outshooting the T-Birds 6-1 over the course of two overtime periods, the Bears couldn't find the net, and lost the game in a shootout. They will look to get back on track next weekend when they host the 5-15 Regina Cougars, who currently sit last in Canada West — Zach Borutski

pandas hockey



0 - 4
1 - 2



The Pandas came back down to earth this past weekend after starting 2016 with a sweep of the Manitoba Bisons, losing both of their games this past weekend to the UBC Thunderbirds. The T-Birds served the visitors with a rude welcome to Vancouver on Friday night, shutting out the Pandas 4-0 behind Danielle Dube's 25 saves.

The green and gold looked to salvage a sweep on Saturday, but fell victim to a tough 2-1 loss in double overtime. Janelle

Froehler scored the lone goal of the game for the Pandas, and they were ultimately done in by Logan Boyd's overtime winner. Dube was excellent once again in the win, stopping 24 of 25 shots directed her way.

The Pandas will look to get back on track next weekend when they travel to Regina to take on the Cougars, who now only sit a single point behind the green and gold for second in the Canada West standings. — Zach Borutski

Diversions

Design & Production Editor
Adaire Beatty

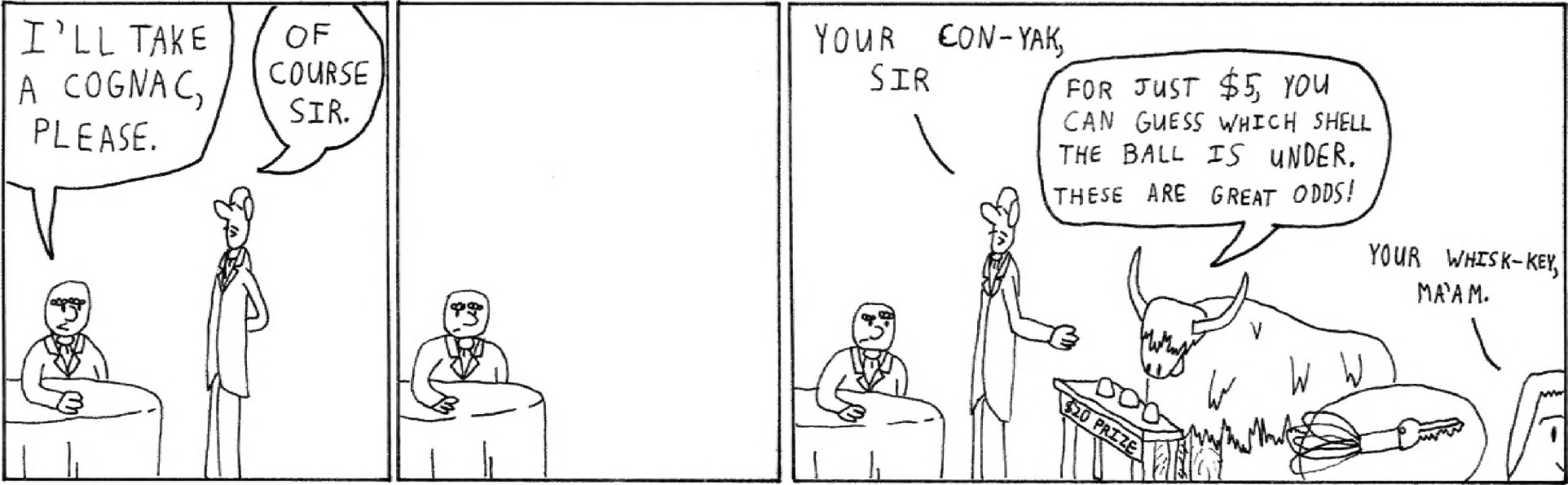
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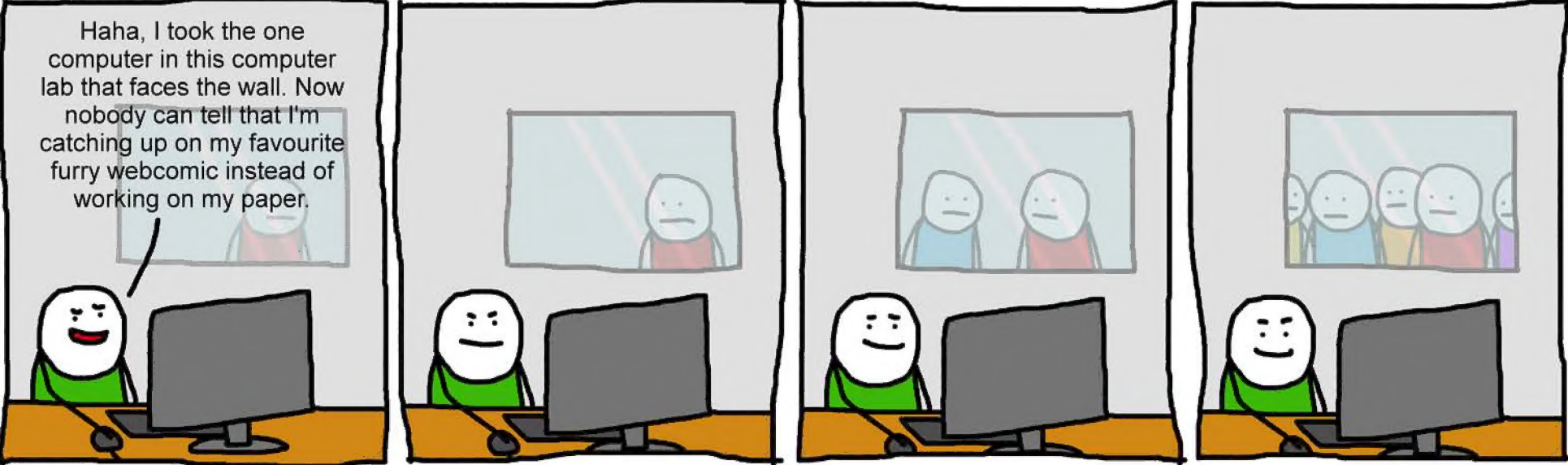
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Diversions meetings every Thursday at 3pm in SUB 3-04

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AS EASY AS 1, 2, 3

by Kathy Hui

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ACROSS

1. Math fcn
4. Hush hush subject
9. Tiny fairy
14. One of the Omega-3's
15. Turn away
16. Low IQ category
17. Not TUT or LAB
18. Keen purchaser
20. Glass flask
22. Fragile when raw
23. Man-made orbit (acr.)
24. Like blue eyes and winter
25. In flames (2 wds)

28. The wrong direction
30. Rope action
31. Invitation's request
35. Biblical priest
36. LOTR's bad wizard "man"?
37. Hazed first year
39. Pippin's favourite meal
42. Service organization
43. Ink vessels
44. Sum (abbr.)
45. Sac of fluid
46. Hulled wheat
48. To a high degree

49. Not us
51. Napkin verb
52. Cell's energy unit (acr.)
55. Prior to P. Eng
56. Impressionist artist
59. Don't refer to yourself as I
63. Juice suffix
64. Lukewarm
65. Soil locale
66. Knights of ____
67. Insecure
68. Feel
69. ____ ass

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1. Gr. 12 math
2. Olive's genus
3. Kills for a deity
4. Chewy sugar
5. C'est I' ____
6. A German airport code
7. Not ifs and ands
8. Playful animals
9. Stop motion penguin
10. Programming language (acr.)
11. Unlucky roman?
12. Charged particles
13. Seine summers
19. Uninformed

21. Shakespearian section
25. Hook/arrow feature
26. GOT: Robert the ____
27. Rate my ____
28. In the bag: Dans ____
29. Poem for the dead
30. To a high class female, with your
32. Sidewalk transportation?
33. Sun screen
34. Minor
36. Engineering company, with Lavalin
38. Gives the go ahead
40. Moves to a surface
41. Mr. E's Beautiful Blues band, with

- The
47. Dwindles, with out
48. Mini or passenger
50. Roosevelt, affectionately
51. Thick
52. To whom it may concern (abbr.)
53. "We stand on guard for ____"
54. Tobacco locale
56. Goes bad
57. Incept this
58. Monthly expense
60. Discard
61. Fish egg
62. Boy

EMPLOYED JOURNALIST by Jamie Sarkonak

CHECKLIST

☒

NEWS

☒

ARTS

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SPORT

☒

OPINIONS

☒

COMICS/DIVERSTIONS/CROSSWORDS ????

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